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ARAB TIMES

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Tehran retaliates by raiding an oilfield and two vessels

Americans attack Iranian ships and oil platforms

WASHINGTON, April 18, (Agencies). Two American jet fighters, responding to an attack, struck a belligerent Iranian frigate with missiles today, leaving the vessel burning in the Gulf, the Pentagon said. The attack came just hours after US Navy vessels attacked and destroyed two Iranian oil platforms.

The US Navy also sank an Iranian patrol boat which fired a missile at the American cruiser Wainwright.

Pentagon spokesman Dan Howard said the attack occurred at 1230 GMT today when the Iranian frigate Sahand approached three American warships, and was requested by radio to turn away.

The Sahand ignored repeated warnings from an E-2C Hawkeye reconnaissance aircraft flying overhead, and fired on three A-6 intruder aircraft patrolling in the area.

"The intruders returned fire with two Harpoon missiles and a number of laser guided bombs," Howard said.

Damaged

The exchange of fire took place about seven hours after American warships destroyed two Iranian oil rigs in the Gulf in retaliation for the Iranian laying of mines in the Gulf, one of which apparently blew a hole in the side of the US frigate Samuel B. Roberts last Thursday.

One of the three American ships, the missile destroyer Strauss, also shot a Harpoon on the Sahand, Howard said. "All the ordnance appears to have hit the frigate and it's heavily damaged. It's on fire at the moment," the Pentagon spokesman said.

He said the incident occurred about 10 miles southwest of Larak island in the Strait of Hormuz at the mouth of the Gulf.

The attack on the Iranian frigate came hours after US forces attacked and destroyed two Iranian oil platforms in the Gulf in retaliation for the destruction of the USS Samuel B. Roberts by a mine last week.

White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater announced that six American warships attacked the Sirri and Sassan oil installations in the southern Gulf, said to have doubled as armed radar facilities used to coordinate attacks on Gulf shipping.

Fitzwater said the White House had "conclusive evidence" that Iran had laid the mine that hit the Roberts and had laid other mines in the area.

"The government of Iran has repeatedly been warned about the consequences of such hostile acts," he said. "Our actions... are designed and intended to deter further Iranian mining."

Fitzwater reported that President Reagan decided on the attack last night during meetings in the private residence of the White House.

Howard said the A-6 intruder aircraft were from the US aircraft carrier Enterprise, which has been on patrol in the northern Arabian Sea. He said the A-6s normally fly patrol over the Gulf.

Iran countered with retaliatory strikes directed at the American-flagged tugboat Willy Tide, which was hit by three Iranian speedboats, the White House said.

Ablaze

Shipping sources said Iranian gunboats also attacked the US-operated Mubarak oil field, the British-flagged York Marine, fully laden with crude oil, near Qatar, and a Cypriot-flag merchant vessel.

The York Marine under charter to Petroship Partners of New York, was ablaze and its crew had abandoned the ship, a spokesman for York Marine said.

Iranian gunboats also attacked the Cypriot-flag merchant ship Omnium Pride in the Strait of Hormuz today, shipping sources said.

They said the 25,039-ton Omnium Pride, carrying fertilizer from the UAE port of Ruweis, was attacked at about 4:20 pm (1220 GMT). There were no reports of casualties.

Shipping sources said a third oil platform at Raskh was also on fire, apparently confirming a Tehran Radio report of US forces attacking three Iranian oil platforms. But US officials said they were not aware of an assault on a third platform.

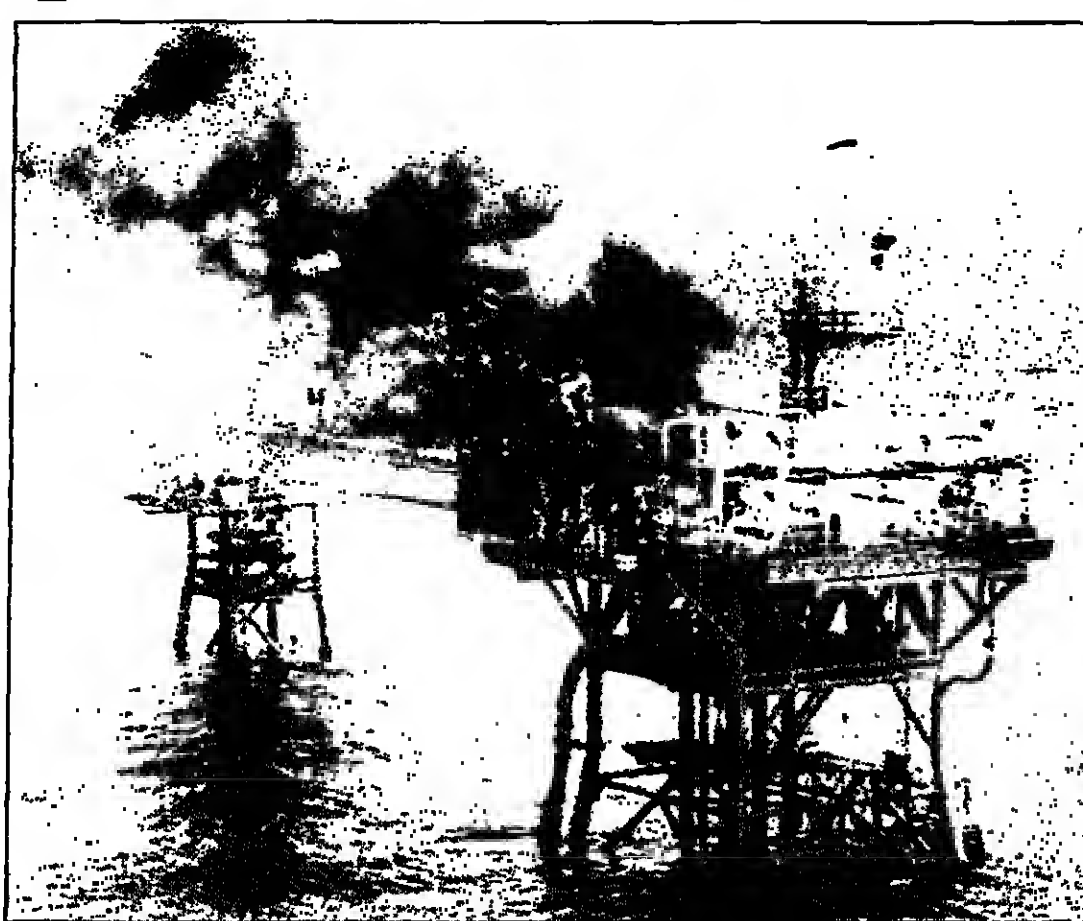
Iran also reported US helicopters late yesterday exchanged fire with Iranian forces on the strategic Iranian-occupied Faw peninsula in southern Iraq, where Iraqi forces launched an offensive early yesterday. US officials said they were not aware of any US involvement in Faw.

Iran, in a statement reported by the Islamic Republic News Agency, called the US attacks "an empty bravado" and "a weak ballyhoo which will not go unanswered." It also said the United States and Iraq, Tehran's foe in nearly eight years of fighting in the Gulf, were conspiring against Iran and said Washington would not be able to save the Baghdad regime from defeat.

Tehran Radio said Iran's Revolutionary Guards Corps was calling for fresh volunteers to go to the Gulf to fight US forces.

US officials said there were no American casualties when the US forces destroyed the oil platforms at Sirri and Sassan — one

(Continued on Page 3)



A UAE oil platform at Mubarak oilfield in the Gulf burns after it was attacked by Iranian gunboats. (Reuters wirephoto)

Last Iranian defence line on Faw destroyed

BAGHDAD, April 18, (Reuters). Iraq said today its troops had destroyed the last Iranian defensive perimeter on its southern Faw peninsula and were purging the remaining Iranian forces from the old oil terminal there.

An Iraqi official said that thousands of Iranian soldiers and Revolutionary Guards had been killed, wounded or captured in the Faw offensive launched early yesterday.

"Our forces have destroyed the last Iranian defensive perimeter at Faw and they are now engaged in purging the last enemy pockets in the terminal," the official said.

Iran said heavy fighting was continuing on the peninsula, which Revolutionary Guards occupied after an assault across the border Shatt Al Arab waterway in February 1986.

Diplomats in Baghdad said Iraq had more than 50,000 troops on the southern part of the peninsula, 90 kms (50 miles) south of the port of Basra.

Surprise

An Iraqi high command communiqué said troops of the Presidential Guards and the Seventh Army Corps had wiped out all Iranian forces on the peninsula except for a few isolated groups.

The communiqué said the first two objectives of the surprise offensive had been reached and a final target remained. It did not elaborate.

An earlier communiqué said

(Continued on Page 3)

Americans told to keep a low profile

THE US Ambassador Nathaniel Howell has advised all Americans living in Kuwait to "exercise maximum vigilance" in view of the prevailing situation in the Gulf, sources told the Arab Times yesterday.

The situation suddenly escalated on Monday following the US Navy attack on an Iranian oil platform in the Gulf and a retaliatory attack by an Iranian gunboat on US-operated oil facilities of the emirate of Sharjah.

The Americans have been asked to keep a very low profile and not to travel in groups while visiting suburbs or public places.

Iranian allegations baseless: Kuwait

KUWAIT yesterday dismissed as untrue the Iranian allegations that Kuwait's Bubiyan Island was used by the Iraqi forces to their onslaught on the Faw peninsula.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman cautioned that the Iranian allegations implied aggressive intentions against Kuwait.

"Kuwait has been watching with deep regret the allegations by the Iranian media about Bubiyan being used in launching military operations against Iranian forces in the Iraqi Faw peninsula," the spokesman said.

He said that "Kuwait has categorically denied it had allowed the use of a single inch of its territory in any respect of this tragic war" between Iran and Iraq.

The spokesman said the denial was "communicated anew" to the Iranian government through diplomatic channels during a meeting between Foreign Ministry Undersecretary Sulaiman Majed Al Shaheen and the Iranian charge d'affaires.

He added that Kuwait was hoping "the Iranian media will discontinue these baseless

accusations, the repetition of which are indicative of premeditated intentions by Iran to commit new aggression on Kuwait under such groundless pretexts.

Iran earlier accused Kuwait of allowing Iraqi helicopters to use its territory for the offensive on the Faw peninsula and warned Kuwait to stop immediately.

The Iranian news agency Ima quoted a war information headquarters spokesman as saying Iraq's use of Bubiyan showed Kuwait was "practically siding with the Baghdad regime" in the war.

"Obviously the Kuwaiti government only stands to lose from this hostile act."

The Iranian charge d'affaires in Kuwait had protested strongly to the Kuwaiti Foreign Ministry, warning the state to stop allowing Iraq to use the island or bear the consequences, Tehran Radio said.

Bubiyan, 30 km (20 miles) north-east of Kuwait City and a few miles from the southern Iranian war front, is a barren strip of sand and marsh which has been declared a closed military zone by Kuwait.

Hijackers ask for suhour

Security around Algiers airport tightened

From Jadranka Porter

ALGIERS, April 18: The hijackers and hostages aboard the Kuwaiti Boeing 747 began their fast today on the first day of Ramadan in Algeria, while security was tightened around the airport with armed policemen taking positions on the roof of the main terminal of the Algiers Houari Boumedienne airport and increasing vigilance around the aircraft and on the airport approach roads.

Results

The hijackers asked for 45 meals last night for suhour — the last meal of the day before the dawn to dusk fast. The intermediaries led by the Algerian freedom fighter El Haj, carried four messages to the jet yesterday and made two trips to the plane today, carrying newspapers to the gunmen on their request. There has been no word about the contents of the talks.

As the sixth day since the plane's arrival at Algiers airport began, the fact that the only concrete results of Algerian mediation so far — the release of one hostage, a doctor's visit to the plane and the promise to continue negotiations — took place within the first two days of the plane's arrival, became painfully conspicuous.

This has prompted some observers to say that the Algerians may have bitten off more than they can chew, underestimating the difficulties involved in this crisis.

Supporting this view are some comments from the Algerians who admit that "this case is more complicated than any previous" they have handled.

The Algerians still enjoy the confidence of both negotiating parties but the progress they are making as mediators is said to be received with varying degrees of

(Continued on Page 3)

Shamir overjoyed

Israel ordered Al Wazir's killing

TEL AVIV, April 18, (Reuters). Israel ordered the killing of Palestinian guerrilla commander Khalil Al Wazir at his Tunis home on Saturday, Israeli sources said.

Some Israeli sources said Al Wazir, military deputy of PLO chairman Yasser Arafat, was machinegunned to death in a combined operation of the Mossad secret service, a naval unit and an elite Army unit.

Critics abroad of the attack have widely assumed it was staged by Israel, but authorities here made no comment in the immediate aftermath of the killing, which provoked the worst day of violence in the four-month Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories.

Authorised

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, speaking at a closed meeting with visiting American Jews, described a report by the US television network NBC that he personally authorised the operation as "a load of nonsense," his spokesman said.

However, right-wing Trade and Industry Minister Ariel Sharon sought to justify the assassination and said he supported the "elimination" of other guerrilla chiefs.

"Few people had so much Jewish and non-Jewish blood on their hands," Sharon told reporters on a tour of northern Israel.

"I think that without doubt justice was done for the many who were murdered, both Jewish and Arab, in the land of Israel."

In line with the government's official ambiguity, Sharon

declined to say directly whether Israel was responsible for the killing of Wazir.

But he said: "For many years I have repeatedly said we must take care of and hurt and eliminate the heads of the murderous terrorist organisations."

NBC television news reported yesterday that Israeli armed forces Chief of Staff, Lt Gen. Dan Shomron helped plan the mission, and said that Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir sent a congratulatory cable to the troops who carried it out.

Resembled

The network said Shamir was "overjoyed" there were no Israeli casualties and quoted him as telling Shomron: "This shows Israel can still strike far and fast."

NBC reported on Saturday that Shamir, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin approved his assassination, following a bus hijack by PLO guerrillas in Israel's southern Negev desert last month in which three Israelis died.

Israeli military experts said the killing closely resembled a daring 1973 operation in which Israeli commandos raided Beirut and killed three senior PLO officials.

Tunisian police said they found two Volkswagen minibuses and a Peugeot saloon car used by Wazir's assassins near a beach north of Tunis, suggesting the hit squad left by sea.

PLO officials say at least 30 highly-trained commandos were involved. Two Palestinian bodyguards and a Tunisian chauffeur were also killed.

Arafat accuses US of complicity

TUNIS, April 18, (Agencies). Palestine Liberation Organisation chairman Yasser Arafat accused the United States of complicity in slaying his right-hand man and vowed the Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied territories will continue.

It was Arafat's first public statement on Saturday's early morning assassination of Khalil Al Wazir, better known as Abu Jihad. He said the death of his childhood friend and the PLO's No. 2 man was not in vain.

"He was martyred while carrying out his duty, weapon in hand. He resisted until he was outnumbered by the Israeli Mossad gang and his body was riddled with tens of bullets," said the PLO chief, who arrived in Tunis on Saturday after the assassination.

Decision

"The decision was an Israeli decision, taken at the highest levels of the Israeli leadership, with a green light from the American administration, Israel's strategic ally," Arafat said.

Arafat vowed the Palestinian uprising in the occupied Gaza Strip and West Bank would continue despite the assassination, which set off some of the worst

rioting yet in the Israeli-occupied territories.

In a message to the Palestinian people inside the Israeli-occupied territories, Arafat paid homage to Abu Jihad.

"To those who thought that the murder of Abu Jihad would snuff out the uprising of the Palestinian people and reduce its heroic revolution to nothing, I say that they are dreaming because his death will stamp a vigorous new breath on this revolution and the price of his death will be high," Arafat said.

Proposal

He said with the death of Abu Jihad, he had lost "a brother, a friend, a revolutionary companion and one of the symbols of the liberation fight of the Palestinian people."

Al Wazir will be buried in Damascus, PLO spokesman Ahmed Abdul Rahman said today.

The body was scheduled to be flown to the Syrian capital later today. Earlier it was decided to bury him in Amman. But today the Palestinian leadership decided to accept a Syrian proposal to bury Al Wazir there, the spokesman said.

Guns firing submachine

(Continued on Page 3)

Oil prices go up due to attack

LONDON, April 18, (Reuters). New attacks in the Gulf sent oil prices, the dollar and gold higher today, dealers reported.

A cargo of North Sea crude oil traded in Europe at \$17.38 a barrel for June loading, up nearly 40 cents from Friday.

The dollar, earlier depressed by bad US trade figures announced last Thursday, firmed on the reports that an Iranian warship attacked an oil platform in the US-operated Mubarak oilfield in the Gulf.

"It's the news about Iran which is causing some short-covering," a dealer in Frankfurt said, as the dollar touched European highs of 1.6640 West German marks and 124.55 Japanese yen after closing in Tokyo at 1.6565 and 123.78.

The gold price was fixed in London this morning at \$457.55 an ounce, up \$1.25 from Friday's close.

(See Page 12)

DAY BY DAY

THE observance of the holy month of Ramadan is different this year — there is an absence of joy and happiness that we are accustomed to during Ramadan.

The usual receptions which mark the holy month were cancelled because of the hijacked Kuwaiti airliner, Al Jabriya. For two weeks the crew and passengers, which include women and elderly men, have been held hostage.

It is painful for people who enjoy their freedom to see their friends being held captive.

It is not true that the hijackers are unconcerned about their own lives and have no fear of death. They are frightened even though they talk of death and martyrdom.

The hijackers will be punished and then the joy of Ramadan will certainly return.

Zahed Matar

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آج کے اردو صفحات میں

○ ایرانی تحریکات پر امریکی فورسز کے حملے

○ شارجہ کے نزدیک ایرانی کھوپڑی حملہ

○ عراق نے قاذو میں ایرانی فوج تیار کردی

○ ہائی جیکنگ کا ۱۳واں روز

○ اوہڑی کیس میں ایک اور ہمیشہ سے خوفزدہ ہلاک

○ معیشت ○ پرفیسٹ

WEATHER

PARTLY cloudy weather with light to moderate easterly to southeasterly wind and a chance for scattered rain. State of sea: slight to moderate.

High water: 2.00 am, 1.00 pm
Low water: 8.00 am, 8.30 pm
Sunrise: 5.18 am
Sunset: 6.17 pm

Maximum temperature recorded:
Kuwait: 36°C 97°F
Ahmad: 29°C 84°F
Falkland: 32°C 90°F

Minimum temperature recorded:
Kuwait: 20°C 68°F
Ahmad: 23°C 73°F
Falkland: 25°C 77°F

Maximum humidity expected:
Kuwait: 35°C 95°F
Ahmad: 28°C 82°F
Falkland: 31°C 88°F

Maximum humidity recorded:
Kuwait: 64 per cent
Ahmad: 62 per cent
Falkland: 72 per cent

Maximum humidity expected:
Kuwait: 69 per cent
Ahmad: 70 per cent
Falkland: 80 per cent

Issak 3.44 am
Ifar 6.18 pm

INTERNATIONAL

Opposition blamed for trying to block US aid

Ershad threatens to try foes

DHAKA, April 18, (UPI): President Hussain Mohammad Ershad has threatened to put some opposition leaders on trial as his government began releasing prisoners held since last year's anti-government protests.

Assailants hurled four homemade bombs at the office of the government-owned weekly news magazine "Bichitra," which ran a cover story entitled, "failed five years of opposition demonstrations" in this week's edition.

No casualties were reported in the bomb attack, which shattered windows and damaged furniture.

Subversion

About 10 minutes after the attack, an unidentified person telephoned the magazine office and said: "There is still time for you to correct yourselves. Write properly about the opposition news."

The bombing came after Sheikh Hasina Wajed, president of the opposition Awami League, criticised the government-run press.

Ershad lashed out at the opposition in a speech to 15,000 primary school teachers.

"Those opposition leaders

who tried to persuade the United States to stop help to Bangladesh and intervene into its internal affairs in fact indulged in subversion," Ershad said. "Failing in their programmes of protests against the government, they went to Washington and other friendly countries, which help Bangladesh economically, to smear the image of the government."

Without identifying the leaders, Ershad said they should be put on trial.

Ershad's threat came eight days before an opposition-planned eight-hour work and transport stoppage in block the opening of the parliament scheduled for April 25.

Home Minister Abdul Matin said the government planned to release all political prisoners barring those against whom there were specific charges.

Elections

The government released 221 prisoners yesterday, and ministry sources said they were part of an expected release of an estimated 2,000 political workers and leaders arrested in opposition protests last November and December.

Of some 6,000 people arrested

in the protests, 2,000 were released earlier and charges have been brought against 1,500 others, ministry sources said.

Ershad, a former Army chief of staff, seized power in a March 1982 coup and gave himself a five-year term in October 1986 presidential polls after four years of martial law rule.

But the opposition said the presidential elections were fraud and demanded his resignation. Ershad responded by dissolving parliament barely 18 months after it was elected and held elections last February.

The two major opposition parties, the Awami League, and the Bangladesh Nationalist Party of Begum Khalida Zia, boycotted the polls and rejected the new parliament.

Last week, Ershad lifted the state of emergency he imposed on Nov 27, 1987 and called the parliament into session for April 25.

Independent Bengali-language daily, the Ittefaq, quoting reliable sources, reported today there are about 2,500 political prisoners held in different jails.

The paper said more than 4,500 political leaders and activists were detained and jailed for

various terms under the state of emergency declared in November last year after the mainstream opposition launched a campaign to force resignation of Ershad.

It said more than 2,000 detainees have been released since then.

In a separate development, nearly 100 people were injured when Bangladeshi students demanding the right to cheat during college final examinations fought teachers and police yesterday.

The police said they fired bird shots, used truncheons and arrested 16 people while dispersing hundreds of students who ransacked examinations centres in northern Bogra district.

Police also fought running battles with students in western Chudanga district, where about 1,000 examinees walked out protesting against "tut-tut" monitoring.

At some places students shouted: "We seek the right to copy" and "expel unsympathetic invigilators," witnesses told reporters.

Nearly 500 people were injured in similar clashes during school final examinations in March, according to official figures.

F-16 crashes in W. Germany

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, West Germany, April 18, (UPI): A US Air Force F-16 Falcon jet fighter crashed today, but the pilot ejected before it went down in open country, the Air Force announced.

The Air Force said the pilot, 1st Lt. Dean E. Weathers, was taken for observation to a US military hospital. He was said to be in good condition.

The plane of the 36th Tactical Fighters Wing crashed near Hermskeil, about 80 miles (130 km) southwest of Frankfurt, while on a low-level training flight, the announcement said.

It was the fourth crash of a military aircraft in three weeks.

On April 5 a US Army helicopter crashed in fog, killing the pilot and a German civilian passenger. Another US F-16 crashed in a residential area March 31, killing the pilot and a German on the ground.

India fails to persuade Washington

US won't stop arms to Pakistan

NEW DELHI, April 18, (UPI): Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi said a Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan would not stop Washington from supplying arms to Pakistan, despite India's attempts to end the aid to its archrival, the Press Trust of India reported today.

It was the first official statement about prospects of a US military cutoff in Islamabad since Rajiv discussed the issue during a visit earlier this month by US Defence Secretary Frank Carlucci.

"We were given to understand that arms supplies to Pakistan would be stopped if Soviet troops were pulled out from Afghanistan," Rajiv told the Press Trust while returning from a visit to Japan and Vietnam. "It is not expected to happen."

Washington has supplied billions of dollars of military

equipment to Pakistan because it holds her forces must be bolstered to resist Soviet occupation forces based in neighbouring Afghanistan since Moscow's 1979 invasion.

Pledge

It has pledged a further \$4.02 billion in aid over the next five years, and Carlucci indicated the Soviet pullout from Afghanistan — scheduled to begin May 15 — would not affect these supplies as Pakistan had a longstanding and durable relationship with the United States.

India, which has fought three wars with Pakistan since 1947, charges the US-supplied arms and war materials are being deployed against it and claims Washington is fueling an arms race on the subcontinent. New Delhi manufactures much of its own hard-

ware, with most military imports coming from Moscow.

The Press Trust reported the prime minister also said the Reagan administration "was glossing over Pakistan's feverish attempts to develop nuclear weapons."

Criticism

New Delhi has criticised Washington's waiving in Pakistan's case of US laws that make it illegal to give military assistance to any nation that has not signed the nuclear non-proliferation treaty but might possess atomic weaponry.

"Islamabad insists its nuclear programme is peaceful and rejects allegations that it is developing weapons. India detonated a nuclear device in 1974 and claims it has no atomic arsenal, but could build one 'if constrained to do so.'"



A Delhi policeman pushes away a protester after police prevented the students from marching to the Pakistan embassy. They were protesting against alleged Pakistani support to Sikh terrorists. (Reuters wirephoto)

Ancient tomb unearthed near Cairo

CAIRO, April 18, (UPI): Officials confirmed today that an ancient Egyptian tomb was unearthed north east of Cairo containing paintings and inscriptions in pristine condition, although they were made some 2,500 years ago.

Archaeologist Zahi Hawas of the government's antiquities department said the tomb was discovered at Helipolis, which the ancients called on and was the centre of the sun worship in ancient times.

Calling it "the first complete tomb to be found in good condition," Hawas said "colourful and beautiful paintings and inscriptions decorate its walls and vaulted ceiling, still in pristine condition."

The tomb dates back to the era of King Psammetichus of the 26th dynasty who ruled Egypt between 664 and 610 BC. This monarch is credited with throwing out Assyrian protection and driving the Ethiopians from southern Egypt.

Troops kill seven Sikh separatists

RATHA GUDHA, April 18, (AP): Government troops surrounded a farmhouse and killed seven Sikh separatists in a six-hour shootout, officials said today.

The Sikhs, led by an 18-year-old self-styled "lieutenant general," killed 55 people in Punjab state in the past three months, according to S.S. Virk, a deputy inspector general of the paramilitary police force.

Officials said three members of the paramilitary police force also were killed in the gunbattle Saturday night near Rathu Gudha, 55 kilometres south of Amritsar.

Fire

Virk said the Sikh band killed 25 people in raids March 31 upon three villages north of Amritsar. He said the victims included a six-month-old baby.

Virk said a seven-man patrol ordered the Sikhs to surrender, but they opened fire with automatic rifles and hurled hand grenades.

He said 150 officers rushed to the scene in back up the patrol and circled the farmhouse, about 2 kilometres outside Rathu Gudha.

United News of India quoted Amritsar police superintendent Izzat Alam as saying government troops poured at least 1,200 rounds of ammunition into the farmhouse, which caught fire.

Virk said officers also seized a large cache of weapons and ammunition, including Chinese-made semi-automatic rifles.

Virk and Alam identified the band's leader as Hari Singh, also known as Hari Singh Gulha. He escaped from jail two years ago after he was arrested in connection with the deaths of two Hindus.

Virk said Singh belonged to the Khalistan Commando Force, one of the largest of a dozen underground Sikh separatist groups.

Eight people, including four Sikh militants, died in other violence in Punjab in the past 24 hours.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Bombs explode

FRANKFURT, April 18, (UPI): Bombs exploded early today within a few minutes of each other outside the Jewish Community Centre and the office of the Saudi Arabian Airlines in downtown Frankfurt, causing considerable damage, but no injuries, police reported. It was not known whether there was a connection between the two attacks.

No organisation took responsibility for the bombings. Police said political motives were possible.

Demonstrations

MOSCOW, April 18, (Reuters): Residents of the Soviet industrial city of Volgograd held demonstrations and petitioned the authorities to clean up chemical pollution, the Communist Party newspaper Pravda said today.

Pravda said emissions of phenol, formaldehyde, chloric acid and other chemicals had affected the health of new-born babies in the city, formerly called Stalingrad, and factories were not being equipped with air filters quickly enough.

Police shooting

NAIROBI, Kenya, April 18, (AP): A policeman went berserk in downtown Nairobi, shooting dead at least three people and critically wounding a fourth, police said today.

A police spokesman said the gunman, identified only as a constable in the paramilitary general service unit, gave himself up to police this morning.

Muslims protest

COLOMBO, April 18, (Reuters): Muslim shop owners closed dozens of shops in Colombo today to protest against the killing of 10 Muslims by Tamil guerrillas in Sri Lanka's eastern province last month.

A spokesman for the Islamic students' organisation, which called the protest said most shops owned by Muslims put up their shutters. The protest coincided with the start of the Muslim holy month of Ramadan.

On March 31, Tamil guerrillas gunned down 10 Muslims and set fire to over 200 buildings in raids on two villages in the Ampara district.

Officers killed

MANILA, April 18, (AP): Suspected communist rebels killed a police captain and a police sergeant and a naval intelligence official in a Manila suburb in separate weekend attacks, the military said today.

A Philippine constabulary report said patrolman Leon Umali was slain yesterday by five men in San Simon, some 50 kilometres (30 miles) north of Manila.

Prince Hassan

SINGAPORE, April 18 (UPI): Crown Prince Hassan of Jordan arrived today for a two-day visit and held talks with President Wee Kim Wee at the presidential palace. The Prince, accompanied by his wife, Princess Sarvath, and an entourage of ministers and dignitaries, was given a red carpet welcome.

The Prince later called on the acting Prime Minister and Defence Minister, Goh Chok Tong at the palace.

Bombing suspect

NAPLES, Italy, April 18, (Reuters): Italian police believe a known Middle East guerrilla worked with a Japanese explosives expert in the car bombing which killed five people outside a US servicemen's club in Naples last Thursday.

Detectives in Naples told reporters last night they had fingerprint identification of the man, who was seen near the club in the port district shortly before the bombing.

Naples police sources said the suspect was known to international anti-terrorist police and was thought to belong to the Islamic Jihad group operating from Lebanon.

Mao statue

BEIJING, April 18, (AP): Workers at Beijing University have demolished a four-story statue of Mao Tse-tung, the tarnished and increasingly ignored founder of Communist China.

The statue of Chairman Mao in front of the main library was one of the largest in the nation. It stood at China's most prestigious college as a symbol of the disastrous 1966-76 cultural revolution started by leftist students with Mao's backing.

Tibet protest

BEIJING, April 18, (Reuters): Underground anti-Chinese protests are continuing in Tibet despite a police crackdown following rioting in March, according to a Tibetan newspaper report.

In a front-page notice in the official Tibet daily, dated April 7 but reaching Peking only today, Lhasa police warned pro-independence activists to halt "all illegal activities."

Pre-summit meeting to discuss human rights

Shultz to visit Moscow

WASHINGTON, April 18, (UPI): With the foundation in place for a Soviet troop withdrawal from Afghanistan, US Secretary of State George Shultz flies to Moscow tomorrow for another in a series of pre-summit meetings with Soviet Foreign Minister, Eduard Shevardnadze.

Shultz and Shevardnadze met last week in Geneva for more than an hour and a half, signing for their nations as co-guarantors of the arrangement for the Soviet Union to pull its forces out of Afghanistan after eight years of occupation.

Assuming the Soviets adhere to the schedule of pulling all their troops out of Afghanistan by February 1989, one of the major irritants in US-Soviet relations will have been removed.

Emigration

As he returned from Geneva, Shultz listed other topics to be discussed in Moscow beginning Thursday, as planning continues for the May 29 to June 2 summit between President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.



George Shultz

On the issue of human rights, the United States continues to push the Soviets on opening up on emigration, particularly for minority groups such as Armenians, Jews and ethnic Germans.

The Soviets appear to have decided to take the offensive on the human rights issue instead of just reacting to American charges. A Soviet Foreign Ministry official said that the United States has signed only five of 21

major international human rights documents. Those agreements have frequently been rejected by Congress because of clauses that were seen to be either anti-American or anti-Israeli in nature.

With Afghanistan apparently off the agenda, the United States will continue to push for Soviet pressure to bring about a pullout of Vietnamese forces from Cambodia and Cuban forces from Angola.

Shultz will continue to try to stop the Soviets from ending what he has called "their foot-dragging" on an enforcement resolution that would bring pressure on Iran to join a cease-fire in its war with Iraq.

On arms control, a serious hitch has developed in putting together a strategic arms reduction agreement, which is supposed to be the centrepiece of the Moscow summit, US officials say.

The two sides cannot agree on how to identify and verify sea-launched cruise missiles.

Dissident cleric blasts Khomeini

NEW YORK, April 18, (Reuters): A top Iranian cleric blasted Ayatollah Khomeini and said Iranian clergymen were moderates seeking rapprochement with the West, Newsweek international said.

Ayatollah Mehdi Rnuhani, France-based European spokesman for Iran's grand ayatollahs, told the magazine:

"(Iranian spiritual leader) Khomeini is an extremist, a revolutionary. And if he has created a following abroad it is not because he is a man of God, but because he is an extremist who has no fear of the West."

"He realises that the majority of Iran's clerics have begun to turn against him because Khomeini's Islam does not correspond to the Islam we revere. He follows an Islam that promotes hostage takings and hijackings," Rnuhani was quoted as saying.

"I can tell you that the majority of the Iranian clergy is moderate and favours a rapprochement with the West."

The real danger to (Khomeini's) regime comes not from the Army or the United States or Iraq, but from the clergy. This is why if I was forced to return to Iran today I know I would be executed."

Dukakis seeks help from actress cousin

NEW YORK, April 18, (Reuters): Democratic presidential frontrunner Michael Dukakis called in his Oscar-winning actress cousin Olympia as well as Senator Edward Kennedy today to campaign for him in Tuesday's New York primary.

Kennedy, a hero to New York's Irish Catholics, planned to stump up support in the Bronx while Dukakis and his cousin, who won an Academy Award for her supporting role in "Moonstruck", campaigned in Lower Manhattan.

The Massachusetts Governor, according to political commentators, was aiming to give a touch of star quality to his efficient but colourless campaign.

Fight

Dukakis holds a slim lead over black civil rights campaigner Jesse Jackson in the race for the 2,082 convention delegates needed to win the Democratic nomination at the party convention in July. He hoped to stretch his lead on Tuesday when New York Democrats pick 255 delegates.

A Jackson victory would throw the light into disarray when party leaders desperately want to settle the nomination

and prepare for a tough fight against Republican Vice-President George Bush in the November presidential election.

Jackson and Tennessee Senator Albert Gore were concentrating their campaigns in New York City and its suburbs, which account for three out of four votes in the state.

Dukakis seemed more interested in firming his support outside New York City, planning stops in Buffalo, Rochester and Syracuse, where polls gave him a strong lead over his rivals.

Dukakis was defending a shrinking lead in New York. Surveys said he led Jackson by margins ranging from six to 14 per cent. Less than a week ago, polls gave Dukakis a 15-point lead.

Political experts said a convincing Dukakis win in New York, which sends more convention delegates than any state except California, would probably be followed by victories in Pennsylvania and Ohio and the party could then nominate Dukakis without back-room haggling.

"If he has a significant win in New York, the train really does start leaving the station," said Democratic strategist Robert Neuman.

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Security around Algiers airport ...

(Continued from Page 1)

The gunmen, who according to an Arab source are eight, two Lebanese, two Iraqis, two Iranians and two of unknown nationality, and are led by a man called Jamil, continue to blow hot and cold.

In an established pattern they follow every apparent lull in the course of events with a menacing threat.

Yesterday afternoon the hijackers forced a Kuwaiti passenger, Fahmi Doukhi, who works for Kuwait Airways, to plead with the Kuwaiti government to release the 17 prisoners to return for the freedom for the hostages.

"If the Kuwaiti government does not release the 17 prisoners, our fate will be black," said Fahmi, son of a famous singer now deceased. He also said what his fellow passengers were doing and sent his love to his family.

Spirit
As the Algerians began to fast, questions are repeatedly being asked about whether the negotiating parties will make use of the occasion of Ramadan, the spirit of which is to promote feelings of compassion for fellow Muslims, to soften their attitudes and give hope that not all is lost for those held hostage.

Sources here said today that the PLO chairman Yasser Arafat may pay a visit to Algiers shortly but there are no indications that his visit, if it takes place, would have anything to do with the hijacking.

PLO officials in Cyprus
The current visit of Algeria's Minister Dr. Taleb El Bahat to Libya has given rise to speculation that the diplomat is paving the way for the hijacked airliner to leave for Libya. However, an Algerian source said the visit was just one of many contacts going on between the two neighbouring countries.

Reuter adds: A member of Kuwait's ruling family held hostage made a terrified plea today for the release of the 17 prisoners.

Audible
Fadel Al Sabah, his voice barely audible, called for the release of the prisoners in Kuwait in a radio broadcast. The hostage, one of three members of Kuwait's ruling Al Sabah family aboard, was obviously in a feeble condition and had to be prompted by gunmen on the plane's flight deck.

His appeal was made after the estimated 31 remaining hostages on the Kuwait Airways Boeing 747 became the longest-serving prisoners on an airliner in the history of hijacking.

Last Iranian defence line on Faw destroyed

(Continued from Page 1)

The Iraqis had retaken a large salt pan which formed a natural barrier against armour moving towards the terminal at the tip of the peninsula.

The land between the salt pan and the terminal, however, is hard and suitable for tanks and other armoured vehicles.

One diplomat in Baghdad said Iraq might have ferried its armour along the Khawr Abd Allah channel for the final assault. Iraq said its forces had recaptured the bank of the channel in the first hours of the offensive.

Kuwait's Bubiyan island lies on the western side of the narrow channel, which leads to Iraq's only naval base at Umm Qasr.

Iraq also said it launched more missiles against Iran today, firing two at Qom and one each at Tehran and Shiraz.

Family debts to be settled

HH the Amir has asked the government to settle all debts owed by the families of the two hostages killed by hijackers of a Kuwaiti airliner.

The government would also continue to pay the salaries of the dead men to their families.

Fireman Khaled Ayoub Bandar, 20, and border security guard Abdullah Mohammed Al Khalidi, 25, were killed by the hijackers at Larnaca airport last week.

An emergency cabinet meeting reviewed the latest developments in talks to free an estimated 31 hostages still on the Kuwait Airways Boeing 747 in Algiers.

Egorov dies

AMSTERDAM, April 18, (AP) Yuri Egorov, a Soviet-born pianist who defected to the Netherlands in 1977, died yesterday of meningitis, his agent confirmed today.

Afghan guerrillas hold cabinet meeting

ISLAMABAD, April 18, (Reuters): Afghan guerrillas held the first "cabinet meeting" of a provisional government in a move diplomats described as a bid to unify their seven-party alliance.

"The first cabinet session of the provisional government ... was held today," the Pakistan-based Islamic Unity of Afghan mujahideen (Ittehad-i-Islami), fighting to topple the Soviet-backed Kabul government, said in a statement.

Diplomats said the wording of the statement suggested that it was not an official proclamation of a provisional government, although it indicated such a move was near.

Posts

The alliance earlier this year proposed a transitional government headed by US-educated engineer Ahmad Shah and said it would be composed mainly of guerrillas and refugees, with only a 25 per cent share for "other Muslims in Afghanistan."

It has rejected an invitation by President Najibullah to form a coalition government of national reconciliation and has vowed to continue the nine-year-old war until he is toppled.

Today's statement said the meeting was presided over by Shah, deputy leader of the mujahideen, and the session was inaugurated by alliance chairman Gulbuddin Hekmatyar.

"In this session questions

relating to the formation of the provisional government and its sundry aspects were discussed," the statement said.

A diplomat said some guerrilla leaders wanted appointments to the provisional government to be approved by their military commanders inside Afghanistan before it was proclaimed.

Organised
"The meetings shows the mujahideen are organising themselves and sends a message that they are able to agree on their own government, something they have been unable to do for eight years," one diplomat said.

The alliance condemned the Geneva agreement signed last week because it made no provision for a neutral transitional government.

The guerrillas say Najibullah's government was imposed at gunpoint by Moscow and the withdrawal of an estimated 115,000 Soviet troops stipulated by the accord will not be complete until his administration is removed.

The alliance said later the meeting decided to send three teams into Afghanistan as soon as possible to find a secure place to establish a provisional government.

A statement quoted Ahmad Shah as saying after the meeting that two people from each of the seven alliance parties would take part in these missions.

The cabinet also decided to meet once a week.

Two killed in Pakistan as rocket explodes

ISLAMABAD, April 18, (UPI): A rocket exploded in the hands of an expert of an Army disposal team clearing ordnance from the rubble of an ammunition depot, killing two and injuring eight others, Defence Ministry and hospital sources said.

The rocket exploded yesterday as the Army team was loading it aboard a truck for transport to Barakahu on the outskirts of Islamabad. Unexploded ordnance has been detonated by remote control in a massive cleanup following the April 10 fire and explosions at the Ojri Army ammunition depot in Faizabad.

At least 100 people were killed and 1,100 injured by the explosions in Faizabad that showered the crossroads town and the cities of Islamabad and Rawalpindi with rockets, mortar and other ordnance.

President Mohammed Zia-ul-Haq on Thursday blamed unidentified saboteurs for the blast at the camp believed to be loaded with weapons and ammunition for Muslim guerrillas in neighbouring Afghanistan.

A Defence Ministry statement said one member of the Army disposal team was killed while handling the bomb yesterday

Arafat accuses US of complicity

(Continued from Page 1)

guns and silencer-equipped pistols burst into the suburban villa of Al Wazir, 52, between 1:15 am and 1:45 am on Saturday, pumping scores of bullets into him after slaying three bodyguards.

Police investigating the assassination said Sunday the gunmen apparently spent two days in Tunisia preparing for the attack on Al Wazir's villa in the Tunisian capital's tranquil northern suburb of Sidi Bou Said.

In an interview with a Tunisian newspaper published yesterday Al Wazir's wife, Umm Jihad, said she also expected to die in

the assault.

"We were in the bedroom. My husband heard an unusual noise at the gate of the villa. He took his revolver and I ran out behind him shouting 'what's happening?' She told the semi-official Houriya, or Liberty, newspaper. "He didn't reply. He stood in the corner of the first floor landing of the villa. I was at the other end."

Shots
"The first one (gunman) fired a volley of shots, the second fired another, the third still another," she said. "I turned my face to the wall. I expected them to kill me too. But they didn't."

"My 16-year-old daughter came out of her room. I heard someone say 'go to your mother.' Afterwards, my little son could not understand anything. He kept saying 'why is my father outside?'"

Umm Jihad disclosed in the interview that her husband was scheduled to leave Tunis on a 4 am flight to a secret destination. He would have left their villa about 3 am to travel to the airport, she said.

After the assassination Saturday, police found three rented getaway vehicles abandoned on a beach 18 miles (28 km) east of

Tunis where the gunmen apparently escaped by sea. The assailants left few clues in the vehicles other than some empty mineral water bottles, empty fruit juice cans, and a pair of high-heeled shoes, police sources said.

Hired

The car rental company said two women using the names Hawates Allam and Aichi Sridi rented two of the vehicles, and a man who identified himself as Gorji Nejib hired the third. The three rented the vehicles Thursday.

Palestinian camps under curfew

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, April 18, (Agencies): The Army restricted travel in the occupied territories today and damped a curfew on 21 refugee camps to try to rein in riots, while soldiers shot and killed one Arab woman and wounded another Palestinian, hospital officials said.

The latest violence was triggered by the assassination on Saturday of PLO leader Khalil Al Wazir. Israeli sources said the attack in a Tunis suburb was carried out by the Israeli Mossad intelligence service, the Navy and elite commando unit.

In the occupied Gaza Strip, where Al Wazir grew up, a 30-year-old Palestinian woman, Aida Othman Totah, died after being shot in the back, officials at Gaza's Ahli Arab hospital said.

The officials said that Totah's relatives claimed she was killed after she refused to remove burning tyres and stones from a street in central Gaza city.

Ablaze

Hospital officials also said 21-year-old Mohammed Atcyah Ghaban was shot and wounded in his left leg as he and other youths set tyres ablaze, a common form of protest against 21 years of Israeli occupation.

Rioting was far less intense than on Saturday, when 17 Palestinians died in the bloodiest day of rioting in four and a half months. Arab reports said Israeli troops shot and wounded nine Palestinians yesterday. The Army confirmed two wounded.

Americans attack Iranian ships

(Continued from Page 1)

by gunfire and the other by Marines who boarded the installation. But there were no immediate reports on other possible casualties in the attacks.

Carlucci in Washington, said an Iranian guided-missile patrol boat was sunk after it approached American vessels "with obvious hostile intent" and disregarded warnings to leave. The White House said the frigate USS Simpson sank the Iranian vessel after it fired at the cruiser USS Wainwright with a Harpoon missile but missed.

"Abandon ship. We are going to fire on you," the USS Simpson twice told the Iranian warship, according to monitored radio transmissions. There was no response from the Iranian gunboat before the USS Simpson fired.

US vessels also warned those aboard the Sirri and Sassan oil platforms to abandon the rigs and installations before the attacks — described by the White House as a "measured response" to Iranian aggression — began at 9 am (0500 GMT).

Sirri is 250 miles east of Bahrain and Sassan is about 150 miles southeast of Bahrain. The two islands are about 100 miles apart.

"We have repeatedly told Iran that we did not desire military confrontation but the government of Iran should understand that we will protect our ships and

our interests against unprovoked attacks," White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater said in Washington.

Fitzwater said the platforms were used by the Iranian military as command and control radar stations and the attacks were in response to "Iran's recent resumption of mine-laying in international waters and its mine attack on the USS Samuel B. Roberts," in which 10 Americans were injured last Thursday.

Rescue

Gulf shipping sources said US warships and helicopters after the attacks told salvage tugs they could rescue Iranians, but warned them not to try to put out the fires aboard the platforms. Black smoke billowed into the sky after the US strikes, shipping sources said.

The sources said a US warship gave the Iranians on Sassan five minutes to abandon the rig and then extended the deadline to 10 minutes.

A transcript of the radio exchange quoted the US ship as saying: "We give you five minutes to evacuate the platform. There will be an attack."

An Iranian on Sassan replied: "We have technicians here. We need more time."

US warship: "You now have 4-1/2 minutes to evacuate the platform."

The Iranian then asked for 10

minutes, which was granted.

Iran's official Islamic Republic News Agency confirmed both attacks, saying the two platforms "are reportedly under fire of the aggressive US warships." It said the Nasr platform on Sirri was hit at 9 am and the Sassan rig 23 minutes later. The Sirri platform produces about 38,000 barrels of oil daily, Iran said.

Mines

Iran said Sassan is jointly owned by Oman and Iran but shipping sources said only Iranians were on the platform. They said Iran uses the Sassan oil rig to supply Iranian speedboats and larger vessels that carry mines.

The attack was the second by US naval forces on Iranian oil installations in the Gulf. On Oct 19 last year, the Navy destroyed Iranian oil platforms crammed with radar gear and weapons three days after Iran fired a Chinese-made Silkworm missile into a US-flagged tanker in Kuwaiti waters.

The mine blast on the Roberts was the worst incident involving a US vessel in the Gulf since an Iraqi F-1 Mirage jet fighter fired two French-made Exocet missiles into the USS Stark on May 17, killing 37 sailors in what Iraq later apologised for, as a case of mistaken identity during a night patrol.

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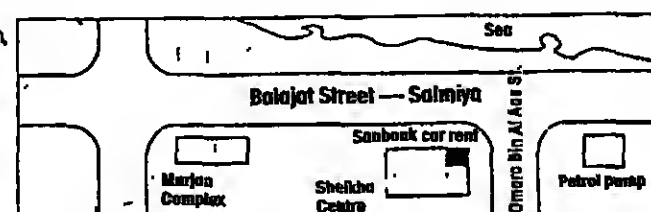
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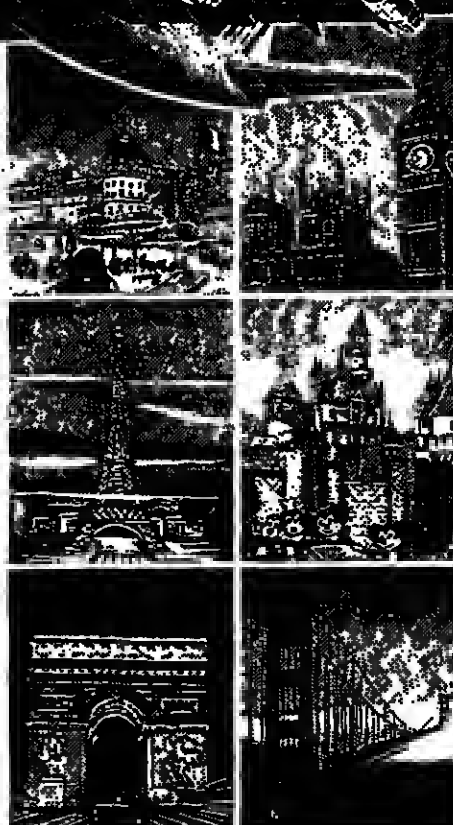
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KUWAIT ... GULF

Pharmacist should advise patients

By Fathima Ahmed

DOCTORS have called on pharmacists to play the role of "advisers" to patients. The call was made at the recently held seminar on misuse of drugs.

Dr Abdullah M. Assad, director of the pharmaceutical department, Kuwait, said: "The concept of the pharmacist as a dispenser of medicine is outdated in Kuwait." There is a need for a more practical approach, he said.

The ministry is now adopting a "more universal approach," expanding the role played by the pharmacists. "We want him (pharmacist) to be an adviser, telling patients on how best to use medicines, avoid side-effects and generally prevent misuse of drugs."

Dangerous

For instance, a random survey of 120 patients at the Addan Hospital done by Dr Assad, revealed that at least 18 per cent did not take medicine dosage as advised, but took all three doses at one time, particularly during Ramadan. Doctors say combined dosage could be dangerous, and may prove fatal in the case of diabetic patients.

Glue sniffing, misuse of steroids, beta-blockers, cough medicine and other drugs are more prevalent in Western countries but there is growing concern that they may affect Kuwaiti society, he said.



Dr Abdullah Assad



Dr Mohammad Aslam

John Ramsey, a British expert speaking at the seminar said glue sniffing causes 100 deaths per year in the UK, and the majority are among 15-year-old males. He said they misuse all adhesives ranging from typewriter correcting fluid, cigarette lighter refills to fly sprays and other products.

Banned

In Kuwait, doctors are worried about the use of "kohl", a high lead-containing eyeliner. Dr Assad and Dr Mohammad Aslam of Nottingham University surveyed the Addan, Jahra and Farwania areas to study the number of kohl users. "Between 15 and 20 per cent of all women used it on a regular basis," they said. The use of kohl by pregnant women led to deformed babies.

The Ministry of Health, Kuwait, imports medicine

valued between KD7 and 10 million per year. Assad said they hold stocks to last 18 months. In the private sector, the turnover of medicine is higher.

The health authorities have banned over-the-counter sales of "certain groups of drugs like psychotropic." The import, sale and dispensing of psychotropic drugs, anti-depressants, etc has been restricted by a recent Amiri decree.

The seminar was attended by Dr. Brian Widdop, Dr. David Cowan and 200 local doctors, pharmacists and nurses.

The two-day seminar, held at the Mubarak Al Kabir Hospital, was organised by the Ministry of Health in cooperation with the Nottingham University, UK. The UK delegation was led by Dr Mohammad Aslam.



● The second ideal governorate working team held a function under the auspices of Ahmad Governor, Sheikh Al Sabah Al Salim in honour of participants in the governorate week at Hubara Club. The head of the team, Jassem Al Shatti, made a speech in which he praised institutions and companies for their contributions. At the end of the function Sheikh Al distributed certificates of appreciation. Picture shows Shatti presenting a certificate.

Education Ministry officials hail firm stand over hijacking

A NUMBER of senior officials at Kuwait's Education Ministry have hailed the firm stand of the government over the hijacked KAC airliner.

They rejected the blackmail practised by the hijackers and the killing of innocent passengers.

Undersecretary Abdul Rahman Al Khudari said a group that did not abide by any value or honour had succeeded in hijacking the plane. These pirates began bargaining with the country's freedom and independence by threatening the hostages and killing two citizens in cold blood. He said Kuwait will be stronger and firmer in its stand which did not retreat or respond to their demands.

The assistant undersecretary for planning and development affairs, Rashid Al Hamad, said that the hijacking captured the attention of Kuwaitis from the first day. The Kuwaiti stand was clear to the hijackers. He believed the hijacking could not have been

planned by a group of people, but by a bigger side which wants to see this country disunited and people killing each other.

He hoped the Algerian officials would put an end to this tragedy. Kuwait's stand was firm and strong because it was aware of the aims of these pirates, he said.

Denounced

The assistant undersecretary for private education, Dr Yacoub Al Sharrar, said the hijacking was a painful one that was rejected and condemned by all people living here, even though they were of different nationalities. The hijackers belong to a group that does not know God or humanity. He said the world condemned the piracy from religious and humanitarian points of view. The hostages were facing death and were being threatened by a group which wanted to achieve its goals by all means. But Kuwait was being

firmer and more decisive in its stands against blackmailing, he said.

Meanwhile, the piracy was denounced by Kuwait University's Council at a meeting yesterday presided over by the Education Minister Anwar Al Nouri.

After the meeting, Dr Rasha Al Sabah said that the council had denounced the piracy of the KAC jet plane. They said that the behaviour of the hijackers was against all international conventions and prohibited by all religions. She said the council supported the government's stand that refused to succumb to blackmail.

During the meeting the council agreed to set up a press and media department to be affiliated to the arts faculty, to establish a centre for the development of higher education at the university and to evaluate the performance of assistant rectors. The council agreed to promote some university officials.

Uprising will continue until liberation of Palestine

"THE Palestinian uprising will excavate a new trend, create a new spirit, and establish a new road that lives up to the level of our people's sacrifices", Palestinian martyr Abu Jihad was quoted as saying by a Kuwaiti daily.

In an interview before his death and described by the newspaper as the last Palestinian leader gave, Abu Jihad said Palestinians of all classes, sects and ages have been taking part in the 5-month uprising.

He confirmed the participation of the Palestinian religious factor in the ongoing upheaval, noting that it has been characteristic that it has never been fanatic or sectarian.

The Palestinian uprising will continue, said Abu Jihad, until it achieves its proclaimed goals of liberation and national independence, however this needs creating a more efficient Palestinian Arab formula.

Abu Jihad, who was assassinated 24 hours before the publication of the interview, said all

pressures have failed to find a substitute for the PLO, including the US through its various plans.

"We do not rule out further US pressures that will encourage Israel to continue its brutal repression to stave off the uprising and its results," he said.

"Required Arab support of the uprising has not reached our people. It was late. Too late. There is no justification for this delay," he said, bitterly criticising the Arab inefficiency in this regard.

The Palestinian martyr, who was in charge of the occupied land affairs, denied reports about a Soviet-Jordanian bargain aimed at putting pressure on the PLO to accept participation in an international Mideast conference as part of a Jordanian delegation.

Casting doubts on the Soviet stand is part of the plot aimed at aborting the uprising," said Abu Jihad, noting that the official Soviet stand calls for an international conference with PLO

participation provided that such a conference enjoys full authorities.

Over non-use of arms in the uprising, the late Palestinian military leader said this method resulted in world wide support for the uprising even amongst Western political parties, groups and mass media which traditionally supported Israel in a blind manner.

Trespass

Further Israeli brutality will lead to escalating advocacy for the Palestinian struggle and legitimate rights, said Abu Jihad who affirmed that no party will ever be able to trespass the PLO in its capacity as the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

In reply to a question about the outcome of the uprising, Abu Jihad stressed that it has revealed the brutal essence of the Zionist entity, secured wide support for the Palestinian cause, represented a war of attrition against Israel, and deepened our conviction in our inevitable victory.

Disaster relief fund

THE Prime Minister of Pakistan has appealed to all overseas Pakistanis to donate money to the Prime Minister's Disaster Relief Fund to help people affected by the colossal loss of life and property as a result of the explosion at the Orri ammunition depot on April 10.

In a press release, the Pakistan Embassy in Kuwait said that donations can be deposited in Pakistani commercial banks and at the embassy.

Committees to study suggestions on education

KUWAIT'S Education Ministry will set up three working committees to study the recommendations of the second educational conference held last month, the Undersecretary, Abdul Rahman Al Khudari, said yesterday.

He said each committee would have five members and would prepare reports and specifications for carrying out the recommendations of the conference.

He said that the examinations committee set up this year had begun preparations for the final examinations in the five educational areas.

Al Khudari said the Education and Health Ministries were studying the question of finding substitutes for the nurses who had been taken away from the schools to work at the Health Ministry. He said one solution was to train three workers of every school in first aid and some health sciences.

He said the ministry did its best to engage qualified teachers through interviews.

He added that the ministry appointed 332 Kuwaiti teachers this year. They were graduates from universities and the faculty of basic education.

UAE denounces assassination of Al Wazir

ABU DHABI, April 18. (Kuna): Federal National Council of the United Arab Emirates today strongly denounced the ugly crime committed against deputy general commander of the Palestinian revolutionary forces Al Wazir (Abu Jihad) and the continued criminal actions against the Palestinian people.

In a communique, the council stressed that Zionist attempts against Palestinian leaders would only increase the determination of the Palestinian revolution to continue until the liberation of Palestinian lands, particularly Jerusalem, is achieved.

The council affirmed its full support to the current Palestinian uprising and said that the struggle of Palestinian people to restore their legitimate rights and to establish their independent state under the leadership of the PLO would be reinforced by more martyrs.

PLO office here received condolences from large numbers of Arab and foreign diplomats and officials here on the death of Abu Jihad.

Kuwait, Moscow sign co-op protocol

A COOPERATION protocol has been signed by the cooperative society unions of Kuwait and the Soviet Union.

It was signed on behalf of Kuwait by the chairman of the Union of Cooperative Societies, Ali Abu Hadidah, and for the Soviet Union by the deputy chairman of the Soviet Cooperative Union who is currently visiting Kuwait.

The ceremony was held at the Abdullah Al Salem cooperative society and attended by the secretary-general of the Kuwaiti Union, Nizar Al Radaan, council member Ahmed Tabatabaei and a number of Soviet officials.

After signing, the Soviet official praised the hospitality shown to him and the cooperation between Kuwait and the Soviet Union.

Contract signed

MINISTER of Public Works Abdul Rahman Al Houti yesterday signed KD 3.5 million contract to design and construct the Amin Diwan, office of HH the Crown Prince and Premier and the Council of Ministers.

Official sources at the ministry informed Kuna that the project will take 42 months to be completed.

Plan to remove scrapyards

SOURCES have said that Kuwait Municipality and the Finance Ministry's Department of Government Property and Service are conducting a study to determine the best way to remove scrapyards throughout the country.

Sources said the purpose of the study was to possibly organise scrap collection by a few Kuwaitis and that those who received land designated for scrapyards would be responsible for their management. Those who wish to have such a business would be required to apply for approval to appropriate authorities. Government or private sector employees may not apply.

Science Club team returns

THE delegation from Kuwait Science Club returned on Saturday from a ten-day visit to China and Hong Kong. Their visit was at the invitation of the Chinese commercial attaché.

While in China the delegation visited a number of national industrial sites and met with representatives of major national companies.

The delegation will prepare a report about its visit to submit to the club's board of directors.

ROYAL COURT

Amir-Assad telephone contact

HH the Amir today contacted by telephone, Syrian President Hafez Al Assad.

KUWAIT PRESS DIGEST

Kuwait's efforts to solve hijacking ordeal hailed

A KUWAITI newspaper yesterday hailed Kuwait measures in trying to solve the ordeal of the hijacked Kuwaiti jetliner, and affirmed that Kuwait will not submit to "devilish pressure."

Al Rai Al Aom said that those who believe that Kuwait could be shaken or affected by shocks or crisis are mistaken, affirming that Kuwaiti people are one body and one family.

It noted that those "ignorant" people, who believe that they can bring rifts between the people of Kuwait, "do not know the nature of the Kuwaitis."

The paper pointed out that the hijacking of the Kuwaiti plane, the assassination of deputy general commander of the revolutionary forces Khalil Al Wazir and the continuation of the Iraq-Iran war "is the most serious penetration of the Arab national security."

It called on the Arabs not to remain silent and indifferent toward the activities of the Arab nation's enemies, who are moving every where to bring rifts in the Arab rank.

Countdown for Iranian collapse

AL ANBA newspaper yesterday said the Iraqi offensive to liberate the southern peninsula of Faw breathed on air of optimism in the Arab world at a time when the course of developments in the region could be described as tragic.

The liberation of Faw would herald "the countdown for an Iranian collapse which would sooner or later lead to an end of the (Gulf) war..." the paper said in a front-page editorial.

Iraq announced on Sunday that its forces, including the elite Republican Guards, launched a major offensive to liberate Faw which was captured by the Iranians in January 1986.

Al Anba said the fall of Faw to the Iranians was originally of no strategic value to Iran and liberating the discussed port was made difficult for the Iraqis because of the swampy nature of the area.

"Nevertheless Iraq was determined to liberate it as not to let the invaders have a foothold on any inch of Iraqi soil," it added.

The paper linked Iraq's decision to regain Faw by force to Iraq's repeated rejection of peace proposals "to liberate the occupied areas."

The liberation of Faw, could prove Iraq's military supremacy over Iran is increasing constantly and that the balance of power in the war in favour of Iraq has already been decisively settled," it said.

King Fahd to visit Egypt

SAUDI Minister of Information, Ali Al Sha'er, announced in a press statement published yesterday that Saudi monarch King Fahd Bin Abdul Aziz will visit Egypt soon in response to an invitation by the Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

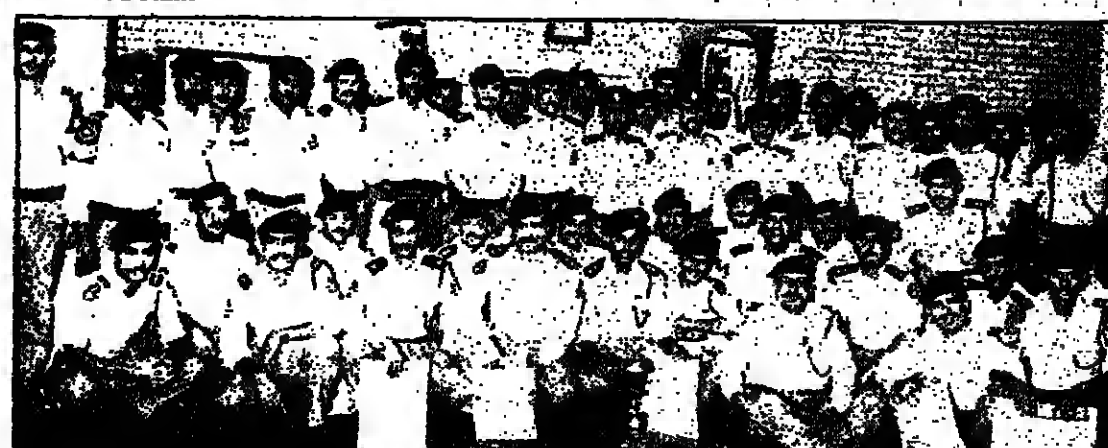
Sha'er, who was talking to a Kuwaiti newspaper, did not specify the date of the visit.

The Saudi official described the talks he held with his Egyptian counterpart Safwat Al Sharif earlier this month as "very good," where several issues relating to information cooperation between Egypt and Saudi Arabia were discussed.

The Saudi minister paid an official visit to Egypt on April 5 during which he met with President Mubarak.



Fifty officers and warrant officers of the police telecommunication and emergency department, were honoured yesterday by the director general, Brigadier Abdul Hameed Hajji. Top picture shows an officer receiving a certificate and the bottom picture shows the honoured staff.



Arab chambers call for increasing food production

DAMASCUS, April 18. (Reuters): The Arab world, which now imports around \$30 billion worth of food a year, must learn to feed itself.

That was the message from 400 members of the Federation of Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture, meeting in Damascus for their 30th conference.

It also called on governments to set up a strategic food reserve on which any Arab country could draw, and to protect and strengthen agriculture.

"Studies have shown that our food imports now stand at \$30 billion and this could reach 200 billion in the next few years," one official of the 21-nation federation said.

A federation founder-member, Badr Al Deen Al Shallah, told Reuters that exporting nations might use food as a

political weapons if Arabs continued to eat more than they produced.

Shallah said the conference urged a series of joint projects to meet the basic food needs of Arab countries.

Shallah, president of the Syrian Union of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, said the Arab world should have a joint strategy to beat obstacles to greater production.

Common market

He said the Arabs now imported a large slice of world food exports — 33 per cent of wheat and cereals, 32 per cent of poultry, 78 per cent of sheep and goat meat and 18 per cent of milk.

He said studies presented to the conference stressed the need to achieve food security and showed this was possible.

"First we have to achieve economic integration and then

we will have all resources to achieve our objective," Shallah said.

Those resources include 33 per cent of world oil production and 52 per cent of known reserves, 30 per cent of phosphate production and more than 50 per cent of reserves, he said.

Shallah, 83, is a founder member of the Beirut-based federation, set up in Egypt in 1950.

He called for an Arab common market on European lines to promote economic integration and speed commercial and industrial development.

"We called for setting up the Arab market when the European community was just an idea," he said.

"It hurts us as Arabs that Europe with all its differences and contradictions succeeded, while we were unable to achieve our objective."

The launch of Apple computers at the Kuwait Regency Palace Hotel



Last week, the Grand Conference Hall of Kuwait Regency Palace Hotel witnessed the new launch of Apple Computers in Kuwait. The ceremony was patronised by Mr. Fouad Mulla Hussein (the General Secretary of the High Board of Planning and attended by Mr. Abdulrazzak Al Sane, Mr. Jameel Al Sane and Mr. Gilles Mouchonnet, General Manager of Apple Computers (Middle East), and a number of guests.

The welcoming speech delivered by Mr. Jameel Al Sane, General Manager of Al Sane Group, was followed by Mr. Mouchonnet, who gave a brief review on the history and success of Apple Computers, which scored, in 1987, an increase in sales of more than 51% over 1986. In 1987 the total sales amounted to \$2.66 billion compared to \$1.9 billion in 1986.

Mr. Fouad Mulla Hussein then uncovered the display of the latest Apple Computers and equipment, the advantages of which were demonstrated by qualified personnel from Al Sane Group.

In 1987 Al Sane Group was appointed as the sole dealer of Apple Computers in Kuwait. The new Apple showroom is located downtown Kuwait opposite the Salihiya Complex, where Sales, Maintenance, Seminars and participation in local lenders, will be carried out.

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Bulgarian Art Show
An exhibition of contemporary applied arts in Bulgaria is being held at the Dahiyat Abdullah Al Salem Gallery, near Fatima Mosque. Open daily except Friday, from 8 am to 12 noon and 7 to 10 pm, until April 21.

Ghadir Gallery
Sudanese artist Hasan Hakem is showing his drawings at the gallery in Salihiya Complex. It is open daily from 10 am to 2 pm and 8 pm to midnight, until April 21.

Sultan Gallery
"The Islamic Heritage of Spain" is open daily from 10 am to 1 pm and 7 to 10 pm at the Sultan Gallery, Thunayao Al Ghanim Bldg., Al Soor St. Tareq Rajab Museum Ramadan timings are 9-12 noon and 7-10.30 pm.

SOCIAL

Kuwait Natural History Group

A meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 19, 7.30 at the Gulf English School, Salwa. A talk on Colour Printing For Beginners will be given by T.K. Behnam. For details call Eric Shaw 3718417.

Kumustahan

The next Filipino get-together (Kumustahan) will be held from 6 to 9 pm on April 29 at the Church Hall. All Filipinos are welcome. Snacks will be served.

Ifar Party

The Bangladesh Association will hold an Ifar Party on April 21 at the Bangladesh Embassy premises. All Bangladeshis are invited.

Kuwait Cultural Centre

The Centre will hold two courses: a management of personal investment/ four weeks and computer classes/20 hours. For details phone 5624364.

K.I.T.

St. Georges Day Informal, on April 21 at 8 pm. For members and guests. Tel: 3985964 or 3982739.

Alumni get-together

The T.K.M. College of Engineering will hold a get-together on April 21 at the SAS Hotel. Those who have not registered please contact 2402945; 4336416 after 7 pm.

YMCA Holiday Special
The Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) will hold the Holiday Special on May 17. Messiahs Beach Hotel. Highlights are music by Top Ranks with special competitions such as Made for Each Other Contest, Funky King and Queen. For reservations contact Lancy — 4814914, 9 am to 4 pm, 3981790; 3929518, 5 to 8 pm.

Solar Energy

A lecture-cum-discussion on solar energy application will be given by Dr. R.K. Suri and Gopal P. Rameshwar at the IAC hall, Finaitees, on April 21, 7.30 pm. For entry passes contact IAC Manager, Mohan, 6 to 9 pm.

SPORTS

Kuwait Nomads Rugby Club

This week's match is on Tuesday. Kick off: 7.30 pm. Contact Jon Evans for delivery of club shirts, as ordered. Tel: 5339867. Club AGM on Tuesday, May 10, at Gazelle Club, 7.30 pm.

Palarong Pilipino

There will be a meeting of all tennis participants in the Filipino Mini-Olympics at 6 pm on April 28 at Mahuhay Restaurant. All Filipinos are invited. For details contact Bong Malencio — 4877793.

Goan Cup Tournament

The Young Goons Association, Kuwait, will hold a seven-a-side football tournament on the first day of Eid Al Fitr at the Al Sour Grounds. The draw will be held on the same day at 7.30 am. Tournament commences at 7.45 am. The tournament is open to all communities, subject to approval by organisers. For details contact Tom — 2419409; Almeida 4813892 ext 232.

HOTELS

At the Holiday Inn
Al Ahmadi Coffee Shop offers special Ramadan buffets with Arabic and Continental buffets after sunset until 2 am. Sample Oriental delicacies including fowl and falafel at the Ramadan Diwaneya for breakfast (Ifar).

PRAYERS

Fajr	3.53 am
Zuhr	11.47
Asr	3.22 pm
Maghreb	6.18
Isha	7.38



Nadia Dabbagh

THIRTY seven contemporary dancers present two ballets — Carnival and The Never Ending Story, choreographed to music by Scott Joplin and Giorgio Moroder.

Ballet — and other contemporary dance forms — were introduced to Kuwait 14 years ago by the School of Contemporary Dance, which has its own company — one of the best in Kuwait. In the last 14 years, the school has performed 34 ballets, notable among them were: With Russia to Love, Cats, Variations, Fire and Ice and Hunting of the Snark.

The school's productions are professional, judging from past shows, and skilfully executed by nubile performers.

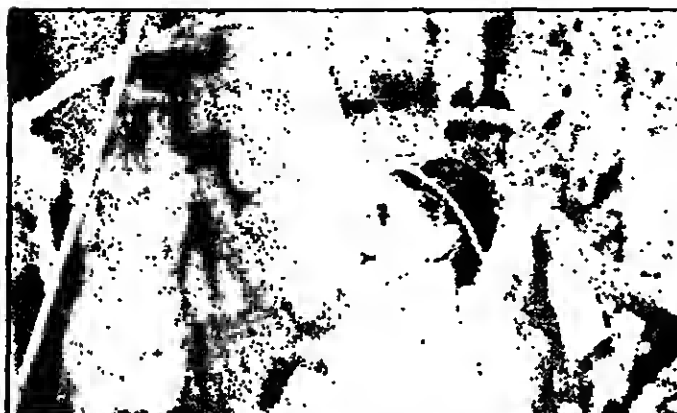
This year's Carnival would bring "lively, fast and difficult music, creating a feeling of a circus." Circus means clowns. And choreographer Andi Hicks has shaped the clowns in Carnival after French clowns — Pierrot, Pierrette, Harlequin and Columbine. It is a romance with Columbine looking for a partner.

Set to Scott Joplin's music "Elite Syncopations," Carnival recreates an atmosphere of a puppet theatre, said Mrs Hicks, an experienced ballet dancer and the driving force behind the company.

"In this ballet, there is no room for error. The music beat is so obvious that there is no room for improvisation by dancers," she said.

The 17 top dancers, including principals Ania Majewska as Columbine, are now work-

The never-ending story of ballet



Ania Majewska



Maha Sarraf

ing on learning their steps. One dancer out of step would be disastrous for the entire show.

Dina Al Saleh

and this is one thing that Mrs Hicks has never given in to. In contrast to the vigour, vitality and joy of Carnival, the second ballet The Never Ending Story, is a fairy tale, described by Mrs Hicks as "a dramatic ballet." Thirty seven dancers dance to music composed by German Giorgio Moroder. It is the bittersweet tale of an empress whose dying kingdom is saved by a child. The principal dancer is Nadia Dabbagh.

"The mood varies in this ballet, alternating from sadness to happiness," said Mrs Hicks. There are fairies, witches casting spells and good fairies to help the empress. The costumes and sets evoke "illusion" with a completely different set done in fabric.

For the first, Carnival, the theme colours are lilac, pink, blue and silver. For the second, golds, peaches and greens have been used by costume designer Sue Forshee. The production design has been done by Wendy Underwood and the sets were built by Rick Muckle.

Apart from Nadia and Ania, some other members of the company are Hannah Ashmore, Maha Sarraf, Jumana Abu Ghazaleh, Sandy Attia, Dina Al Saleh, Paula Sbami, Maryna Donaghy, Rayan Hussein, Lama Al Moussa, Lama Hayet, Tanya Longva, Yassin Katrih, Dalia Alami, Olga Al Busairi and Schirapthi Yagarajah.

The show, sponsored by Abdulhadi Al Mailem Trading Company, runs from April 25 to 29, at the Mousetrap Theatre, Jabriya.

FA

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

- 1.00 Holy Quraan
- 1.10 Tan Tan: cartoons serial
- 1.30 Magazine D'Actualite
- 2.00 On Ramadan: religious programme
- 2.30 Historical serial
- 3.35 Dukkan al Duniya: daily serial: starring Muna Wasef, Mohd Al Haddi, Jayana Eid
- 4.45 Laila, Arabic serial
- 5.30 Hadith Deen: religious talk
- 6.30 Cartoons
- 6.45 After Ifar
- 7.00 Madinat Al Riyah: children's serial, featuring Khalid Al Obaid, Abdul Rahmao Al Aqal, Jassim Nabhan, Mohammad Jaber, Ahmad Saleh, Huda Hussain
- 8.00 Noor Al Islam
- 9.00 Deirat Khair: on Ramadan
- 9.30 Ramadan Contests
- 10.00 News to Arabic
- 11.00 News to Arabic
- 11.45 Late Night Serial
- 12.45 Shaqqat Ustaz Al-iwab: Arabic film, starring Salah Zulfikar, Laila Taher, Mohammad Tawfiq, Imssak/ Holy Quran/ Closedown

KTV 2

- 8.00 Holy Quraan
- 8.10 Pole Positions: cartoons
- 8.30 Funky Brewster: a remote control car is

CINEMA

- Al Andalus War Time Starring: David Blake, Debra Keith
- Al Salmiya Wise Guys Starring: Danny de Vito
- Al Hamra Born American Starring: Mike Norris, Steve Durban
- Drive-In Baab Nasar (Arabic) Starring: Bori, Najwa Fuad, Magdi Wahba
- Al Firdous Insaaf Ki Pukar (Hindi) Starring: Dharmendra, Anita Raj, Jeetendra, Bhaou Priya
- Fahad Open-Air Mahaan (Hindi) Starring: Amitabh Bachchan
- Al Fahad Superman vs Amazon
- Al Jahra Zulam (Bengali)
- Ganada Kaiyettum (Malayalam)
- Solaitikhat Hell Camp
- Al Jeeb Marzada (Bengali)
- Almadi Drive-In
- Fatimat Al Sahra (Arabic)



Punky Brewster, tonight on KTV 2.

the bone of contention between Punky and her adopted father.

9.00 News to English

9.40 Islamic Horizon

9.50 Lorne Greece's New Wilderness.

10.10 Leg Work: "All This And..." A legal firm hires the investigator to look into the financial assets of a wealthy woman.

- 11.00 Omni: The New Frontier: hosted by Peter Ustinov.
- 11.30 Twilight Zone: "Shadow Play". A killer visualises his trial and execution.
- 12.00 Feature Film: "A Stranger Waits". Thriller.
- 1.30 News Summary/ Magazine D'Actualite/ Closedown

People watch more TV in Ramadan

PEOPLE spend more time watching television during Ramadan according to a survey done by an Arabic paper.

A stock-keeper at the Education Ministry, Mohammed Al Enizi, told the newspaper that he watched more television during Ramadan. He asked for more cartoons, especially before iftar (breakfast), and also more religious programmes by Mohammed Al Sharawi.

A primary school teacher, Jassem Rashed, said he liked to watch television and because of fasting during Ramadan he spent more time before the TV screen. He said he enjoyed comedies and cartoons during Ramadan.

A law graduate of Kuwait University, Adnan Saleh, said

he liked to see television during Ramadan, and preferred best sellers and comedies. He didn't care if the series were Arab or foreign as long as they were good. He called for more Arab films, especially the old ones.

A housewife, Sawaan Ahmad Ali, said she liked to see women's programmes on television, especially cooking programmes such as those shown daily last year. She requested officials to show such programmes even during other months of the year.

A high school student, Adel Al Sherida, said he wanted to see more series of Kuwaiti comedians. He said that as many religious programmes as shown during Ramadan should be screened during the rest of the year.

RADIO PROGRAMMES

FM Services

- 0800 Easy Listening
- 0830 News
- 0840 Easy Listening
- 1000 Songs and Music
- 1330 News
- 1340 Easy Listening
- 1400 Classical Music
- 1600 Easy Listening
- 1700 Italian Hour
- 1800 Pops
- 2130 News
- 2145 Pops
- 2200 Indian Classical Hour
- 2300 Easy Listening
- 2400 Instrumental Listening

English

- MORNING
- 08.00 Opening
- 08.02 Songs and Music
- 08.05 Thoughts in Islam
- 08.30 Songs and Music
- 08.30 NEWS
- 08.40 Songs and Music
- 08.45 Daily Programme
- 09.00 Songs and Music
- 09.30 They Sold A Million
- 10.00 Our Press Today
- 10.05 Songs and Music
- 11.00 Closedown
- 13.30 NEWS on FM Service
- Evening
- 21.00 Opening
- 21.02 In The Latin Mood
- 21.30 NEWS
- 21.45 Point of View
- 22.00 Songs and Music
- 22.00 Religious Programme
- 22.15 In The Groove
- 22.45 Daily Programme
- 23.00 Hit Special
- 23.30 Jazz in Action
- 24.00 Closedown

Urdu

- 1800 Opening
- 1910 Behereen Qul
- 1920 Songs
- 1935 Press Report
- 2000 Radio Club
- 2005 News
- 2015 Aaj ka Inikhab
- 2030 Learning Arabic
- 2040 Jahan Numa
- 2100 Closedown

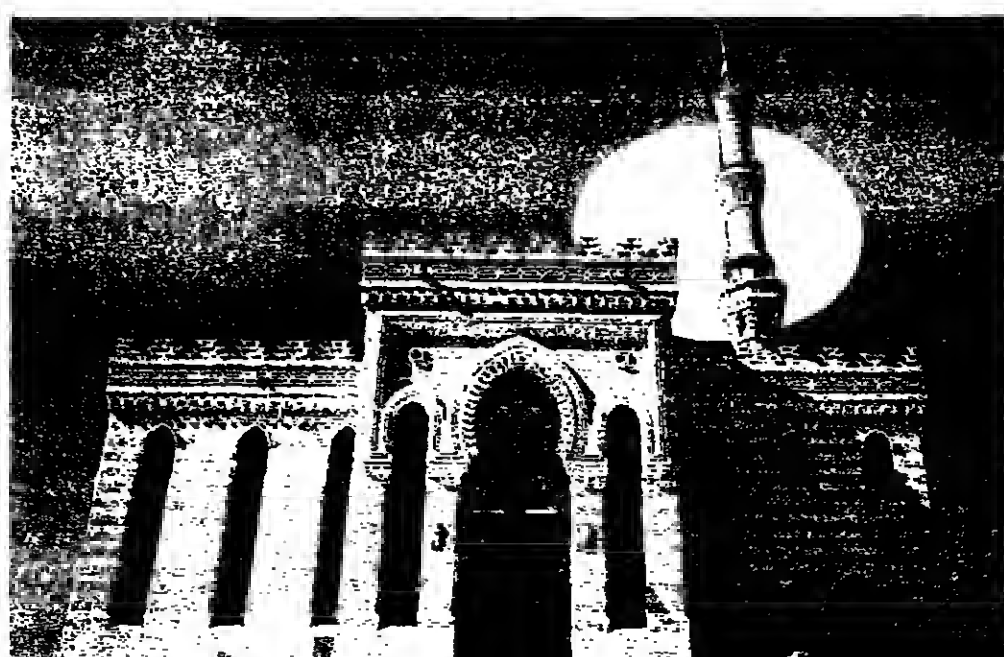
BBC World Services

- 0000 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 Radio Newsworld
- 30 12th Best on Record: 19th and 26th Karajan at 80.
- 0100 News Summary followed by Outlook
- 30 Short Story
- 45 Journey Round My people

NIGHT CHEMIST

- Kuwait
- Ahlan Pharmacy
- Souk Muteheda, Fahad Al Salem St.
- Fahad and Almadi
- Al Habad Pharmacy
- Makkab St., F Beel
- Jeeb Al Shiyoukh
- Al Ayoub Pharmacy
- Shuwaikh Commercial Centre, Main St.
- Jahra
- Al Zahra Pharmacy
- New Market

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Al Fingon: Mouth-watering shwarma, jumbo-size fresh fruit cocktail, pastries and freshly squeezed juices.

Al Waha: Authentic oriental specialties, shwarma and cooling cocktails (until midnight).

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KUWAIT HILTON

EDITORIALS

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

HUMAN nature is not of itself vicious — Thomas Paine, English-born political philosopher-author (1737-1790)

Uprising in occupied lands

Frustrations led to rebellion

By Nicolas B. Tatro

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM. (AP): Palestinians say a feeling they have been neglected by the world and other Arabs, tough statements from Israel and day-by-day frustrations of occupation led to the rebellion in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The spark was a traffic accident Dec 8 in which an Israeli Army truck killed four Arabs near the Jabalya refugee camp in the Gaza Strip.

Tensions were such that Arabs saw it not as an accident but as revenge for the stabbing death in Gaza City two days earlier of Shlomo Sakel, an Israeli businessman.

Anger had been building among Palestinians because they felt abandoned by Arab nations and the world community. The Arab summit at Amman, Jordan, in November, and the US-Soviet summit in Washington in December, did not give priority to the Palestinian issue.

"It was clear to us that we had been put on the shelf," said Saeb Erakat, a political science professor at an Najah University in the West Bank.

"The message (of the uprising) is that we don't wish to become Israelis. We are not a mere community or a minority living in greater Israel. We are a people... and we demand our liberty and our right to self-determination."

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir rubbed salt in the wound by noting publicly that the Arab summit put the Iran-Iraq war

ahead of the Palestinian issue.

He and other right-wing leaders suggested the status quo could continue indefinitely and Israel had a right to keep the lands it captured in the 1967 Middle East war.

This deepened the bitterness. Palestinian statements became extreme in rejecting negotiations for a peaceful settlement.

An example of the harder line could be found in the poetry of Mahmoud Darwish, an Arab living in Paris who had favoured Israeli-Palestinian dialogue.

Many saw his poem "Those who pass between fleeting words" as a demand for all of Israel, not just the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

About the Israelis, it says: "O those who pass between fleeting words. Carry your names, and be gone. 'Rid our time and hours, and be gone. 'Steal what you will from the blueness of the sea and the sand of memory."

Sari Nusseibeh, a Palestinian intellectual who advocates a negotiated settlement, said many want all Israel included in a Palestinian state just as some Israelis want all the land for the Jewish state.

"The question is whether both sides are ready to settle for less than what they want," he said.

He said most Palestinians are ready for a two-state solution, but this feeling is "like a comet that comes close to the earth. If one wants to use it, one has to grab it while it is there."

De Mita determined to reform politics

By Terry Leonard

ROME. (AP): Ciriaco de Mita is known in Italy as an idea man, an intellectual who professes a determination to reform the country's Byzantine political system closer to the style of other Western democracies.

De Mita, aides say, believes the leader of Italy's 48th postwar government has a duty "to show power can be exercised in a different way."

Some critics, however, see politics as usual in De Mita's efforts to form a government.

What is unusual is that he will remain, at least for a time, the leader of the dominant Christian Democrats. Although no other premier has held the post simultaneously in 29 years, De Mita demanded the concession from his party.

Many consider the party leadership Italy's most powerful post. De Mita argued it will give him the authority to govern effectively.

Undermined

The 60-year-old veteran of Italy's volatile politics was watching when factional fighting within the Christian Democrats undermined the government of Premier Giovanni Goria, who resigned for the third and final time March 11.

De Mita, the always well-dressed son of a tailor, was born in Nusco, a poor mountain village east of Naples. He retains strong feelings for the region.

He studied law at the Catholic University in Milan, joined the Christian Democrats in the 1950s and was first elected to parliament in 1963 at age 35. His previous government experience included posts as minister of industry, minister of foreign trade and minister to oversee development of the south. He became party leader in 1982.

Modernise

De Mita, like every other political leader in the country, has harboured an ambition to be prime minister, said Francesco D'Onofrio, a constitutional law expert advising De Mita on institutional reforms.

"The only thing is he would prefer not to head a government just for the sake of heading a government," D'Onofrio said in a recent interview. "He wants to try to inject a reforming attitude both in the party and in the government."

One goal, said D'Onofrio, is "to modernise the Italian political system, to bring it closer

to 'Western-style' democracies, more British style."

Under Italy's current system of proportional representation, even tiny parties win seats in parliament and the process of passing legislation is duplicated in the 630-seat chamber of deputies and the senate.

Despite his professed determination for reform, De Mita balked when the Socialists demanded an end to the secret vote in parliament. Christian Democrat defectors used the parliamentary device to deal Goria a series of humiliating defeats.

De Mita wields much more clout within his party than Goria, and while he is willing to restrict the secret vote, he refuses to abolish it. Italy is a rarity among Western democracies, with open voting used only on votes of confidence.

Deficit

Italy's multi-party system has led to a series of fragile coalition governments, but in a seeming contradiction, it has also given the country stability because the same parties have ruled for so long.

No party has a majority and the communists, Italy's second largest party, have been kept out of the government since 1947.

The Rome daily La Repubblica, Italy's largest selling newspaper, in a front-page editorial Sunday questioned the high price of politics as usual under De Mita at a time when Italy is trying to come to grips with a \$97-billion budget deficit.

The newspaper said when the socialists asked De Mita to use massive government hiring programmes to deal with unemployment in the south, a traditional method in Italy, "it seems the premier-designate accepted the precious suggestions with joy."

On international issues, De Mita's programme calls for continued strong ties with NATO. He supports continued superpower negotiations to reduce nuclear and conventional arms, but opposes moves that would weaken Western security.

He kept open the possibility of having US F-16s in Italy after the warplanes are expelled from Spain, saying the solution to the problem "cannot be equivalent to a measure of unilateral disarmament."

De Mita has been a tireless worker in his party, determined to take part in its overall political strategy. But despite the pressures of leadership, De Mita has always set aside time for his wife and four children.

By Elizabeth Pond

BONN. West Germany's opposition Social Democrats increasingly deny charges that they depart from the Western consensus or endanger NATO's defence capability.

Such charges have been levelled at them by American, British, and French officials and West German conservatives ever since they rejected deployment of new medium-range nuclear missiles on West German territory in 1983. Their vehement denials reflect the distress such charges continue to cause the Social Democratic Party (SDP).

Alfons Pawelczyk — member of the SDP's executive board and deputy head of its committee on security policy — points to what he terms a recent great political success: a consensus on security issues, which underpins public support for the burden of defence.

In an interview, Pawelczyk contrasted the broad agreement of the 1980s with the deep "rifts" of the '50s, when the conservatives initiated, and the Social Democrats fought, German rearmament; and with the '70s, when the Social Democrats initiated, and the conservatives fought, the Ostpolitik of detente.

Now, he says, "We give the (Nato) alliance — and that I think is the most important contribution we have given — a fully united Federal Republic on issues of foreign and security policy."

"Before, there were rifts cutting right through the population. But the large political parties both times understood how to bring the public and the political parties themselves together on these issues," Pawelczyk says.

Policy

"Today we stand on completely solid united ground. The overwhelming majority has accepted and understood the essential elements of Eastern (detente) and Western (alliance) policies as a single policy, even though we are a divided land."

Pawelczyk urges Bonn's allies to appreciate this consensus. He warns against setting a double standard for judging West German Social Democrats and conservatives, and also against degrading the SDP and thus driving it to the sidelines.

Pawelczyk heads his party's subcommittee on arms control, and this month he began a series of meetings with soldiers to discuss Social Democratic views on defence.

He cites the SDP's record, during its 16 governing years between 1966 and 1982, of building

W. German political parties united on security issues

up the country's armed forces to a troops strength of 496,000. Postwar conservative Chancellor Konrad Adenauer had only promised equipping them with modern weapons.

Pawelczyk also cites the SDP's assistance to Turkey, when the need arose, and its initiating of NATO's "double track" decision to offer arms-control negotiations even while preparing for deployment of new Euromissiles in the mid-1980s.

Defence

He further cites Social Democratic advocacy, while out of office in 1983, of a maximum of defence share of the budget of 18.4 per cent. He notes that the present centre-right government does not exceed this figure.

What troubles West Germany's allies is not the Social Democratic Party's record in office.

Rather, allies are concerned about leftist party positions taken after the SDP lost power which repudiated the defence policies of their own centrist chancellor, Helmut Schmidt. Pawelczyk was one of only 13

out of several hundred delegates at the 1983 SDP convention to vote with Schmidt for stationing new Nato Euromissiles in West Germany.

One allied diplomat in Bonn, greeting SDP claims to consensus with some scepticism, noted, "The SDP, for obvious reasons of its own, wants having been wrong both in predictions and prescriptions, (the Social Democrats) want to bring themselves back to the mainstream without having to admit past errors."

He and a number of his colleagues say they hope the Reagan administration's success in negotiating arms control, and the SDP's desire to win middle-of-the-road voters in the next general election in 1991 will eventually enable moderates like Pawelczyk to nudge the party back to the centre. But it isn't there yet, he says.

Beyond broad agreement, on Western alliance and Eastern detente, Pawelczyk identified the issues to explore for measuring consensus or controversy as conventional restructuring of the Army, and short-range missiles.

Allied diplomats would add to the list nuclear-free zones and the overall legitimacy of nuclear deterrence.

On structural reform of the Army, Pawelczyk contends that the centre-right government in Bonn is now doing unsystematically what the SDP has long been urging the defence minister to plan for. That is, letting total troop strength drop, turning numerous brigades into cadre units, and depending on rapid mobilisation of reserves.

Troop

Yet West Germany's allies — who got so disturbed when the SDP in 1983 called for such adjustments to future manpower levels — took offence when the West German conservatives go in the same direction, he remarks.

In regard to short-range missiles (not included in last year's Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty that eliminates the 5,500-to-1,000 and 1,000-to-500-kilometre-range missiles), the SDP flatly rejects modernisation and wants to get rid of them, according to recent

comments in parliament by SDP Chairman Hans-Jochen Vogel. The Bonn government says it opposes modernisation now, but could approve it once NATO has worked out a "comprehensive concept" of post-INF arms and arms control that might include the possibility of negotiating those weapons away.

On nuclear-free zones, the SDP has made a joint proposal with the East German Socialist Unity (Communist) Party that a 150-kilometre nuclear-free corridor be established along the East-West dividing line. This, argues Pawelczyk, would do away with the danger that a conventional war might escalate to use of nuclear weapons so quickly that it would become nuclear war without a deliberate decision ever having been made to do so.

On the overall legitimacy of nuclear weapons, the Bonn government (reluctantly) and NATO (emphatically) maintain that nuclear deterrence, or prevention of war, is what has kept the peace in Europe for more than four decades. The SDP contends (along with President Reagan, Pawelczyk points out) that its "moral aim" is eventually to eliminate nuclear weapons in agreement with the East.

The Christian Science Monitor News Service.



By Eric Bourne

Hungarians rush for new passports

VIENNA. Hungary is having a great passport "rush," and it provides an intriguing illustration of trends and pressures in the East bloc these days.

The rush came in the wake of an official decree, effective Jan 1, that all Hungarians have a legal, "basic right to travel" where they wish, limited only by their pocketbooks.

The passport offices were bowled over by what followed. Applicants formed lines at 5.30 am. In one Budapest district alone, there were 800 requests daily; in two weeks countrywide, there were 70,000. Officials pledged nonetheless to process all applications within 30 days.

It didn't mean Hungarians were voting with their feet against the regime. For them, emigration is not the issue as it is in East Germany, where requests to emigrate are escalating dramatically.

There, since the year began, the authorities have blown hot and cold, letting some people go and barring others in sheer alarm at the possible dimensions of emigration to West Germany.

Pressures

But those circumstances are peculiar to a divided Germany. No similar situation applies in Hungary. Moreover, past experience with an already comparatively liberal travel policy has shown that Hungarians are avid travellers to the West, but that few now stay on.

For those waiting in lines outside passport offices, this recognition of passports by "right" means, above all, an important political step forward in a country where the old Communist

Party monopoly over all aspects of its citizens' lives is increasingly being challenged.

Similar pressures for reform — from outside and from within the parties themselves — are visible throughout the East bloc. There are widely differing reactions from communist officialdom. Party leaders profess themselves for reform, but not all really are.

The East Germans claim that economic success renders reform unnecessary. The Romanians ignore it. The Czechoslovaks indulge in semantics and translate Mikhail Gorbachev's word for the "renewal" of socialism as "strengthening," i.e., of the existing system. Anything more drastic could (in Prague's orthodox view) mean the hudding of another "Prague spring," a brief flowering of political activism and reform that was cut down in 1968.

Willy-nilly, however, this question of the powers and nature of the party of the future is pushing itself to the forefront regardless of official latitude or toughness. Today, acute economic problems cry out for the sort of political reform that is becoming the prime issue everywhere under communism.

The common, central issue is the "leading role" of the party. The Yugoslav Communist Party is to some extent democratised. Most Yugoslavs simply ignore it and go their way. But, in essence, Belgrade's leaders are as opposed, or as reluctant, as later

reformers in Eastern Europe to diminish their authority in favour of meaningful, institutionalised concessions to political pluralism.

In Poland, Deputy Prime Minister Mieczyslaw Rakowski — a prominent "liberal" champion prior to martial law — says the party stands for democratisation, but that does not mean its "right" to govern is up for grabs. Existing coalition parties in Parliament should have a bigger role, he says, but only through more open consultation. There is no place for "opposition" as such to party policy.

In a February interview with Italy's communist paper L'Unita, Lech Walesa committed himself to "peaceful, evolutionary" struggle for reform. The government, he said, "is going in the right direction." He had not previously said anything quite like that. But the authorities have yet to test him at his word, even though for some time Rakowski and others have hinted at readiness to talk with the independent trade union.

Right

Official pragmatism lends more substance to the scene in Hungary. Nowhere in the East bloc is the party's role questioned more actively, as almost ironically — the "right to travel" controversy illustrates.

The right was "decreed" by the presidential council. Many people said it should have come through Parliament. It won't, one is assured, happen that way again. Constitutional changes are foreseen that are intended to prevent the non-elected council from usurping government and parliamentary prerogative.

A future party leader is not likely to have the kind of authority Hungarian leader Janos Kadar enjoyed for 30 years. "He will not have the power to act as a king," says an informed official. "And names, and who succeeds, are not so important any more. What matters are the trends behind them."

Orthodox communist ideologues still reject pluralism as a threat to the party. But, by and large, the Hungarian party — like Gorbachev — is beginning to admit it can no longer expect to retain a monopoly in public affairs.

But where Hungary, or the Soviet Union, might go from there is an open question for the future. Communist parties everywhere are not yet ready to abandon the Marxist mystique of the "leading role."

Costa Rica basks in the glow of Arias' achievement

By Jean Hopfensperger

SAN JOSE. Costa Rica: Costa Rica continues to bask in the glow of President Oscar Arias Sanchez's Nobel Peace Prize award.

The country is enjoying a boom in international tourism, a demilitarisation of its northern border area, and dramatically reduced tensions with Nicaragua, political leaders here say.

And it was partly as a result of President Arias' August 1987 regional peace plan that Nicaragua's leaders and Contra rebels recently reached a temporary ceasefire. His plan paved the way for the direct negotiations.

But, at the same time, President Arias' high-profile diplomacy has been criticised by the conservative national press, the opposition, and many middle-class Costa Ricans who say he is neglecting mounting economic problems at home.

Costa Ricans were so proud that they won the Nobel Prize, says a local taxi driver, "but now it's time for the President to pay attention to what's happening here."

Perhaps the most significant impact of Costa Rica's leadership role in drafting last August's peace plan, says Prof. Danilo Camacho, has been the trend toward demilitarisation — more precisely, the ousting of Nicaraguan Contra rebels from Costa Rican territory.

Likewise, says the professor, the possibility of Costa Rican involvement in a regional war has been reversed.

Minister of the Presidency Rodrigo Arias agrees that the Nobel prize and peace initiative provisions have given the Arias administration the moral authority to stop aiding the several thousand Contras who operated from here. That involvement began under a previous administration, in 1983.

Although Arias began crack-

ling down on Contra activity in northern Costa Rica in 1987, the first year of his rule, efforts have intensified since August. Arias closed rebel airstrips; demanded that rebel leaders based in San Jose leave the country; opened a dialogue with Nicaragua's Sandinista government; and criticised United States aid to the Contras.

Determined to reinforce Costa Rica's civilian tradition, it does not have an Army. Arias issued a decree in August requiring the Rural and Civil Guards to exchange their khaki and olive-green uniforms for more civilian-looking navy blue and gray attire.

It was a symbolic move, and such symbolism has become more evident in recent months. The Civil Guard headquarters in the port city of Limon, for example, is painted with a dove carrying an olive branch. Bus drivers in the capital turn to themes such as "Costa Rica, Oasis of Peace" when they decorate their ornate windows. And the Costa Rican National Guard has been disbanded.

Costa Ricans took part in the Abolition of the Army Day parade Dec 1, to commemorate the 1948 dismantling of the military.

"I think the identity of Costa Rica is much clearer today, both internally and externally, than it was two years ago," says Victor Ramirez, director of the Institute of Tourism. "People know that we're not Nicaragua. We're not Panama. We don't have an Army."

Costa Rica's new peace-promoting image has helped spark a tourism boom in recent months, says Institute of Tourism official Eddy Segura. San Jose's major hotels report 90 per cent to 100 per cent occupancy in January and February. And English-language shop owners say they can't keep enough guidebooks in stock.

Since the Contra war began in the early 1980s, tourism here was static at roughly 200,000-250,000 visitors a year, Segura

says. He predicts a leap this year.

Meanwhile, Costa Rican peace organisations and some left-of-centre political groups say they are enjoying government cooperation for the first time. The Friends of Peace Centre in San Jose, a network of voluntary workers for peace, self-criticism, and justice, and a network of sponsoring events with the motto "Year of Peace" (1988) are among the groups that have been backed by the Arias administration. "Never before has a People United bill been backed by an administration," says Solis.

Elusive

But the dove of peace has been an elusive creature to the opposition Social Christian Unity Party, which says Arias' National Liberation Party is making the peace issue its exclusive property.

Costa Rican peace organisations and some left-of-centre political groups say they are enjoying government cooperation for the first time. The Friends of Peace Centre in San Jose, a network of voluntary workers for peace, self-criticism, and justice, and a network of sponsoring events with the motto "Year of Peace" (1988) are among the groups that have been backed by the Arias administration. "Never before has a People United bill been backed by an administration," says Solis.

But Mendez suggests the President's credibility is diminishing because of growing economic problems, his frequent travels abroad, and inaccessibility to business, civic, and other groups. As one Social Christian newspaper advertisement put it: "Peace is not sufficient, if we become impoverished in peace."

In recent months, disgruntled citizens have held street protests on the recent 6 per cent currency devaluation, a highly unpopular tax package, and a hike in food, transport, and utility costs. Taxi drivers went on strike in January to protest increased license fees.

The Christian Science Monitor News Service.

Cairo housing shortage a time-bomb

CAIRO. (DPA): The crumbling facades of houses ripe for demolition and dilapidated tin shacks that typify the suburbs of Cairo represent a social problem that threatens to engulf the city.

Both City Council and Egypt's national government try to disguise the gravity of the crisis by regularly announcing the completion of massive new building projects involving thousands of new homes.

But unless they step up their efforts, the 15-million population metropolis will be short of at least a million homes by the year 2000.

"We can't hang on any longer — the housing shortage is threatening the peace of our society," the Cairo daily Al-Sayasi wrote recently.

The causes of the disaster are as old as the attempts to solve it. Every year around a million Egyptians are born and as result more and more young families are on the lookout for a new flat.

Boom

Finding one is hard enough but paying for it is often impossible. The simplest flat cost about 20,000 Egyptian pounds (\$9,000) in a country where beggars are a common sight and most people barely scrape by on subsistence wages. The average monthly salary for an Egyptian is 80 Egyptian pounds (\$35).

In addition to the baby boom, Cairo has to cope with about half a million rural residents a year flocking into the city to seek their fortune.

Most have no cash and

nowhere to live so they just settle down at the side of the road in exactly the areas where the government is trying to establish satellite towns in a bid to beat the housing shortage.

However, while the new flats have running water and electricity the tin hut dwellers have to make do with water delivered by tanker trucks.

According to the opposition, about 75 per cent of the country's homes are built without planning permission. At the same time, many of the planned buildings put up by speculators stand empty.

Waiting

Milad Hanna, professor of architecture at Cairo's Ain Shams University, estimates that in 90,000 cases around the country officials have simply granted permission for people to live on sites in shacks, tents and old graves rather than in proper homes.

Cairo city authorities declare 4,000 properties a year unfit for habitation. These are often a century old and on the point of collapse.

The continual increase in the water table in the area around Cairo also leaves its mark on property in the city. The damming of the Nile at Aswan and Cairo's overburdened sewage system allows salt to erode foundations while underground water movements displace walls.

Anyone forced to leave his home ends up on a long waiting list for one of the flats being built in the new suburbs of Nasser City, Al-Salam or Helwan.

In 1976 it was announced that 3.6 million homes would be built here by the year 2000 but it is impossible to tell what supply will catch up with demand.

"Some of those moved out of unfit homes must stay with relatives for a while," said city architect Mohammed Gebich.

Many of the families ordered to leave their tumbledown homes merely acknowledge the receipt of the notice to quit, but decide to stay on.

The 50-square-metre flats in the suburbs are subsidised and the rent is only seven Egyptian pounds (just over \$3), and yet it is still cheaper for many to remain in their own crumbling four walls or more into a hastily-erected tent or wooden shack.

Eight families in the Schubra suburb spent four years living in a collection of five tents despite help offered from officials. Nadia Taher of the American University here claimed in a study.

President Hosni Mubarak recently offered an enigmatic solution to the housing problem, saying there were two ways to alleviate the shortage. "One is based on new solutions and the other on old wisdom," said the head-of-state. He did not elaborate.

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1552 — France's King Henry II and Pope Julius III sign two-year truce.
- 1587 — British fleet under Sir Francis Drake sacks Cadiz in Spain.
- 1775 — War of American independence opens with defeat of British at Lexington and Concord.
- 1783 — US Congress announces end of war of American independence.
- 1794 — Britain, by treaty of the Hague, subsidizes 60,000 Prussian and Dutch troops in coalition against France.
- 1859 — Austria issues ultimatum to Sardinia to disarm, but it is rejected.
- 1911 — Separation of church and state in Portugal.
- 1921 — Government of Ireland Act goes into effect.
- 1928 — Japan occupies Shantung in China.
- 1964 — Coalition government in Laos is deposed by right-wing military group.
- 1975 — India's first satellite is launched by Soviet rocket.
- 1977 — Police in South Korea carry out nationwide roundup of political opponents of government.
- 1987 — Argentina's President Raul Alfonsin announces plans to travel to rebel camp to personally demand surrender of 150 armed insurgents.

John Colenso

Frustrations growing for Britain's king-in-waiting

By Arthur Herman

LONDON, (UPI): Prince Charles' recent escape from an avalanche highlighted the strains felt by a sensitive young man searching for a useful role until the day he becomes king.

Some observers say the prince — worth a fortune estimated \$600 million — is facing growing frustrations that might overwhelm him.

Charles' wife, Diana and sister-in-law, Fergie, the Duchess of York, appear to relish the splashy side of royal life — rubbing shoulders with rock stars and movie idols and making trips to exotic places around the world.

But the lean, 39-year-old Prince of Wales has rejected a life of simply cutting ribbons and of enjoying himself until the day his mother, Queen Elizabeth II, dies or otherwise gives up the throne.

"What gives life some sort of edge for him is doing the dangerous things," Penny Junor, author of a biography of the prince, said after Charles' March 10 skiing accident. "It's the only edge for him since he knows he'll always have financial security and a roof over his head."

Besides skiing on difficult unmarked "off-piste" slopes, the heir to the throne enjoys other risky sports — polo and hunting.

But Charles, a keen student of architecture and urban planning, also has taken a lead in seeking to help residents of Britain's decaying inner cities. As the head of charitable trusts, in one year he made over 100 visits to inner city areas.

"I am driven by the feeling I have had for a long time by travelling around this country and using my eyes that I mind about the conditions in which people live," the prince said after visiting what he called "squalid" housing in Glasgow.

"I have often thought I wish I could do something about it. Slowly but surely I have been trying to find small ways in

Prince Charles approaches 40 this year. But his problem is not that time is running too fast, but that he is running out of ways to kill it till he ascends the throne. Britain's royal watchers seem to be sympathising with his feelings that being a man of action and father of two is simply not enough.

which I hope I can make a contribution."

The wavy-haired prince maybe searching for many years. Queen Elizabeth is healthy at 61, her mother is still going strong at 87 and Buckingham Palace rejects any talk of abdication.

But just as some Britons now say Charles should give up skiing because of his responsibilities, so others seek to thwart his activism on the politically sensitive question of inner cities.

"I think the role of the monarchy has to change," said Teresa Gorman, a member of parliament from the ruling Conservative party. "The attitude of going out and expressing horror at the poor is in a way old-fashioned."

Peregrine Worsthorne, editor of the Sunday Telegraph, said the prince is out of step with the new mood in Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's Britain, which holds that people should be more individualistic and less dependent on state support.

Thatcher has begun her own inner city revival programme and her aides rule out any government role for the prince in that effort.

Harold Brooks-Baker of Burke's Peerage says Charles is overly sensitive, and it shows when people criticise his efforts.

"Clearly it would be much easier to lead a quiet life," Charles told an interviewer. "If people would rather I did nothing about it, I will go off somewhere else."

That kind of attitude is triggering alarm.

One editor who lunched with the prince said Charles defended his right to an active role with such "frightening intensity" it appeared "he's going to either have a public function or have a breakdown," according to the New York Times.

"I just hope he doesn't despair and give up — not like his great uncle King Edward VIII who abdicated, but give up in his spirit," Junor said. And Daily Express columnist Ashley Walton said there are fears the prince "will become even more introspective."

Moreover, Charles is upset by the way the media often trivialise what he says or over the royal family like a soap opera.

When he spoke on the environment, coverage centered on his banning Diana from using Aerosol hair spray in order to protect the ozone layer.

The prince admits to being eccentric, and the nation's biggest-selling newspaper refers to him as the royal "loon."

"He is emerging as a rather sad, lonely, misunderstood figure whose considerable capacity is undermined by a lack of self-awareness," Walton said.

Misconception
But in his first major speech after the skiing tragedy, Charles took a manly swipe at his critics.

"It would seem there is still a prejudiced misconception in certain circles that people concerned about the environment, and what happens to this earth, are heeded, be-sandalled,

shaven-headed mystics who retreat every now and then to the Hebrides (islands) or the Kalahari (desert) to examine their navels and commune with the natives," he said.

Officially, the press office at Buckingham Palace refuses to comment on whether pressures might deflect the prince from his goals. But a palace source said, "There will always be criticism of his actions. I don't think there will be a deflection."

Yet the skiing accident that took the life of one of Charles' best friends has not helped the prince's morale.

Charles and three friends plus two local guides ignored avalanche warnings around the posh Swiss resort of Klosters and, skiing "off-piste," were hit by a massive slide on snow and ice. Charles and others were able to ski clear but Maj. Hugh Lindsay was killed and Patti Palmer-Tomkinson suffered fractured legs.

Another royal biographer, Anthony Holden, said the prince will probably blame himself for the accident.

"I believe it will haunt him for some time," he said.

Holden believes that while Charles is not a natural athlete, he has always felt driven to prove himself both physically and otherwise.

"This Prince of Wales desperately wants to be respected for himself and his



Prince Charles enjoys dangerous sport. His biographer says it's the only edge for him since he knows he'll always have financial security and



Prince Charles and Princess Diana. Although talk of a rift between the two has died down, it is obvious that the two have little in common.



The Prince and Princess of Wales. Although talk of a rift between the two has died down, it is obvious that the two have little in common.

achievements, rather than merely the genetic accident which made him who he is," he said.

In his activist role, Charles has attacked modern architects and city planners. Referring to Hitler's World War II air force, he said in one speech "you have to give this much to the Luftwaffe. When it knocked down our buildings, it didn't replace them with anything more offensive than rubble. We did that."

During the 1960s and '70s, the prince said, planners, architects and developers destroyed the London skyline and "desecrated" the dome of St. Paul's cathedral by building draff office blocks around it.

"Not only did they wreck the London skyline in general," he said. "They also did their best to lose the great dome in a jostling scrum of office buildings so mediocre that the only way you ever remember them is by the frustration they induce — like a basketball team standing shoulder to shoulder between you and the Mona Lisa."

The Mail on Sunday published a poll showing the British public back Charles' determination to speak out.

Asked if he should say more or less about controversial issues, 56 per cent said more, 24 per cent said the same amount and only 14 per cent said less. As to how he should spend his time, only 15 per cent favoured a purely ceremonial role for Charles.

Another poll found that the British public consider Charles the most intelligent of the entire royal family, including the queen. His wife Diana was considered the least intelligent.

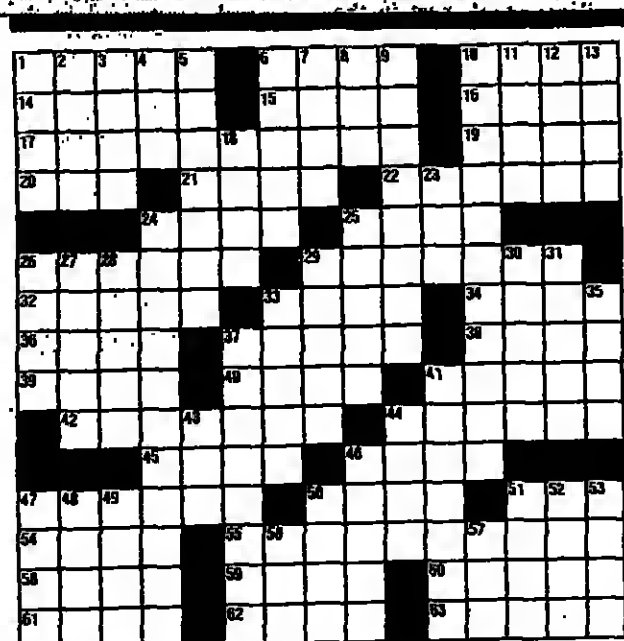
That underlined one aspect of Charles' situation. Although talk of a rift between the Prince and Princess of Wales has died down, it is obvious that the balding husband and his 26-year-old wife have little in common.

When they flew back to Britain with the body of Maj. Lindsay, the couple did not walk together as they strode away from the airplane.

Junor, who has also written books on Princess Diana and Mrs Thatcher said, "he needs someone on an intellectual par who could boost his confidence. I feel that's what he badly needs, and it should come from a wife."

"I think he is a remarkable man and will make a considerable king," she said. "I just hope that he won't despair."

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- Plain-spoken and abrupt
 - Related
 - Malayan outrigger
 - Rajah's lady
 - Open
 - Rider's need
 - Tailor's job
 - Bridge position
 - Sound from the byre
 - Splash of color
 - Granny Smiths
 - Fashionable shoulder enhancers
 - Indian tourist city
 - Each
 - Overwhelmed
 - Reproduce perfectly
 - Verve
 - Mine entrance
 - Old Norse poem
 - Mild oaths
 - Rising row of seats
 - Give off
 - Put-in-Bay's lake
 - Formal statements
 - Sunshade
 - wootzy
 - Explorator
 - Tasman
 - Brought into being
 - Conquer
 - City blight
 - Expert
 - Italian wine district
 - Deep respect
 - Order to fly
 - God of love
 - Scandinavian
 - 007's Connery
- DOWN**
- IOU's acknowledgment
 - Trias out
 - "Dracula" author Stoker
 - 19th cen. French composer
 - Do — others —
 - Wedding announcement word
 - Piazza
 - Convertible
 - Ply the needles
 - Altar pledge
 - Nine-sided figures
 - Rahersal
 - Veritable
 - River into the Saine
 - Aardvark's diet
 - Officer's assistant
 - Certain vote
 - Discoment
 - Winged
 - Land measura
 - Chubby
 - Ancient Asia Minor region
 - Strike out wildly
 - Decree
 - Counts calories
 - Flynn of film fama
 - Walter's tote
 - Merted
 - Quiescent
 - Presidential nickname
 - Travel
 - Bisul
 - Large quantity
 - Tennis great
 - Grak portico
 - Uppity one
 - Tunes
 - Price
 - Compass points
 - Before, to the
 - Bard
 - the line

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

STEP THIS CHAP
WILL REESE HARE
AROA EMILE ERNE
PONYEXPRESSSTOP
SMEE TOT
BABES NEON GAT
ALGAE OALL SOLO
RAILROADSTATION
GILL PLEA LANNY
ORE LEER RANGE
FEN FORD
AIRLINETERMINAL
BLUE EVADE NONE
LENE SERUM GRIN
EXIES SNAP SALT

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
NO WAY OUT

North-South vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH
♠ J 8 5
♥ A 2
♦ K Q 5 3
♣ K 10 6 4

WEST
♠ 6 4 3
♥ Q 8 6 5
♦ 10 8 4 2
♣ A J

EAST
♠ Void
♥ K J 10 7 4
♦ J 9
♣ Q 9 8 7 5 3

SOUTH
♠ A K Q 10 9 7 2
♥ 9 3
♦ A 7 6
♣ 2

The bidding:

North East South West

1 ♠ 1 ♥ 1 ♠ 2 ♠

2 ♠ Pass 5 ♠ Pass

6 ♠ Pass 6 ♠ Pass

Pass Pass

Opening lead: Five of ♣

Sometimes it seems that there is no earthly way for declarer to bring home his contract. On those occasions it does no harm to run a long suit—there is no telling what pressure that could exert on the defenders.

Note South's simple one spade bid after the overall. It was forcing, and South felt that he would learn more about North's hand, and the subsequent bidding would be easier, if he did not jump. When North raised voluntarily, South decided he wanted to be in slam if North controlled the enemy suit.

His bid over game asked about that,

and North cue-bid the ace of hearts in response. South was satisfied with a small slam.

After West led a low heart, prospects were grim. The opening heart lead set up a trick in that suit, and the defenders still held the ace of clubs. A 3-3 diamond split seemed to offer the only hope, but that was distinctly against the odds. Declarer decided to postpone any decision as long as possible, so he won the ace of hearts and proceeded to reel off his trumps, bringing about this position:

♠ —
♥ —
♦ K Q 5 3
♣ K 10

♠ —
♥ —
♦ 10 8 4 2
♣ A

♠ 2
♥ 9
♦ A 7 6
♣ 2

When declarer led his last trump, West was caught in an unusual "squeeze without the count." While he did not have to give up any card in a key suit, he could not afford to part with anything other than a heart—his only safe exit. Reading the position perfectly, declarer discarded a diamond from dummy and then led a club. West was forced to win the ace and return a diamond, and declarer took the last four tricks with three diamonds and the king of clubs.



"Take him straight down to X-ray."

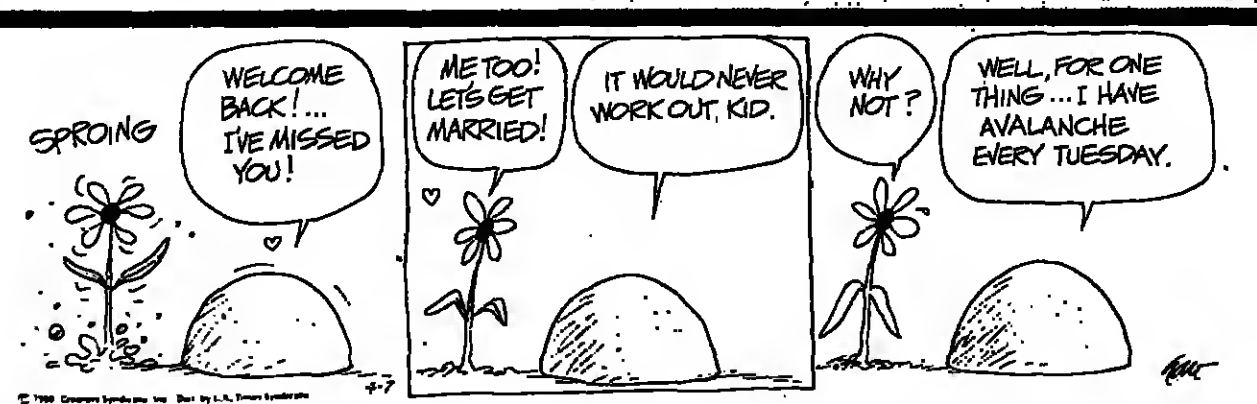
THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS

- Aries** (March 20 - April 18)
You will feel a little more sure of yourself than of late. Others are more inclined to agree with you. You should not try to leave a problem you will have to face up to sooner or later. Be more approachable.
- Cancer** (June 21 - July 21)
Today you must do all you can to keep calm even if provoked. Do not try to fly in the face of fortune. Do all you can to avoid making a fool of yourself. Be moderate.
- Libra** (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)
If you have the last laugh you will laugh best. You should try not to pretend, neither to yourself nor to others. Do all you can to maintain your health. Be generous.
- Capricorn** (Dec. 22 - Jan 19)
Make sure you do not say anything you know you do not really mean. Try hard to express yourself clearly. There is no time to lose or must you dissipate your energies. Be frugal.
- Taurus** (April 19 - May 19)
You will be better able to deal with an economic problem. You will find it hard to keep out of the way of temptation, but you must do so. Try to strike a better balance between work and leisure.
- Leo** (July 22 - Aug. 21)
You should have a little more faith in yourself. Make sure you do not go to bed too late. Try to exercise just a little more self-control. Be moderate.
- Scorpio** (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)
You will be able to draw the right conclusion. However you must also avoid putting two and two together to make five. You should make sure you do not delay something that is really urgent. Be more tolerant.
- Aquarius** (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)
You will be able to find the right balance between work and leisure. You should make sure you do not allow your emotions to get the upper hand.
- Gemini** (May 20 - June 20)
Make sure you do not allow a debt to get worse. The Moon's influence will help you to see things more clearly. Try to avoid allowing your efforts to be dispersed. Be more reflective.
- Virgo** (Aug. 22 - Sept. 21)
You should try not to allow your self to become too nervous. There is also no need to become agitated about something that is not likely to happen. Avoid concerning yourself with secondary matters.
- Sagittarius** (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)
You should give others a little more latitude. Do not jump to conclusions and do not act on impulse. You should look elsewhere than you are for the solution to a particular problem. Be tactful.
- Pisces** (Feb. 19 - March 19)
If you are nervous you are liable to undo all the good work you have done recently. You will be able to make a few changes for the better. You will have to be a little more patient. Be cordial.

Dear Junior Readers,

Most of you know how important it is to cooperate with your classmates when you are playing team sports. It is through working together that your team wins the game.

Cooperation involves listening to what others say and not always insisting on having your own way.

If you cooperate with your classmates off the field you will find that you are also a 'winner'.

Aunt Barbara

Cross reference

The object is to discover which letter of the alphabet each number in the diagram represents. Repeat the starter letters wherever their respective numbers occur; this should give you enough clues to start guessing at likely words.

A	16	7	10	5	17	26	13	18	23	10	21	8
B	7	22	8	21	3	16	5	2	16	5	2	16
C	23	22	24	16	14	19	8	21	14	19	8	21
D	24	14	16	12	16	20	21	7	2	16	5	2
E	5	14	4	16	8	14	26	4	16	2	4	16
F	16	16	7	12	2	23	23	21	7	2	26	13
G	16	16	7	12	2	23	23	21	7	2	26	13
H	9	13	16	17	20	26	14	20	5	2	16	5
I	24	23	16	5	11	24	5	9	14	19	16	5
J	23	10	16	8	18	20	18	4	7	2	16	5
K	13	8	14	1	16	5	3	21	28	14	17	16
L	8	3	14	23	6	16	7	2	16	5	2	16
M	16	2	16	20	6	4	5	18	16	16	7	4

REFERENCE GRID

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

THE big hand of the clock is at 12. The little hand is at 7. It is seven o'clock. It is bedtime for Frances.

Mother said, "It is time for bed."

Father said, "It is time for bed."

Frances said, "I want a glass of milk."

"All right," said Father.

"All right," said Mother. "You may have a glass of milk."

Frances drank the milk.

"Carry me to my room, Father," said Frances.

"All right," said Father.

"Piggyback," said Frances.

So Father carried her piggyback to her room.

Father kissed Frances good night. Mother kissed Frances good night.

Frances said, "May I sleep with my teddy bear?"

Father gave her the teddy bear. Frances said, "May I sleep with my doll, too?"

Mother gave her the doll.

"Good night," said Father.

"Good night," said Mother.

"Did you kiss me?" said Frances.

"Yes," said Mother.

"Yes," said Father.

"Kiss me again," said Frances.

Father kissed her again. Mother kissed her again.

They closed the door.

"May I have my door open?" said Frances.

Father opened the door.

"Good night," said Mother.

"Good night," said Father.

"Good night," said Frances. Frances could

Bedtime for Frances

not sleep. She closed her eyes, but she still could not sleep. So she began to sing a little song about the alphabet. She made it up as she went along: "A is for apple pie. B is for bear. C is for crocodile, combing his hair. D is for dumpings...."

Frances kept singing through E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P, Q, and R, and she had no trouble until she got near the end of the alphabet.

"S is for sailboat, T is for tiger. U is for underwear, down in the drier...."

Frances stopped because "drier" did not sound like "tiger." She started to think about tigers. She thought about big tigers and little tigers, baby tigers and mother and father tigers, sister tigers and brother tigers, aunt tigers and uncle tigers.

"I wonder if there are any tigers around here," she said. Frances looked around her room. She thought maybe she could see a tiger in the corner. She was not afraid, but she wanted to be sure.

So she looked again. She was sure she could see a tiger. She went to tell Mother and Father.

"There is a tiger in my room," said Frances.

"Did he bite you?" said Father.

"No," said Frances.

"Did he scratch you?" said Mother.

"No," said Frances.

"What do you want, Giant?"

She took a good look at him. There was no giant. It was the chair and her bathrobe. So she went to bed again. Frances was not very tired and did not close her eyes. She looked up at the ceiling. There was a crack in the ceiling, and she thought about it.

"I do not like the way those curtains are moving," said Frances.

"Maybe there is something waiting, very soft and quiet. Maybe it moves the curtains just to see if I am watching."

She went into Mother and Father's room to tell them.

Frances said, "There is something moving the curtains. May I sleep with you?" Father said, "Listen, Frances, do you want to know why the curtains are moving?"

"Why?" said Frances.

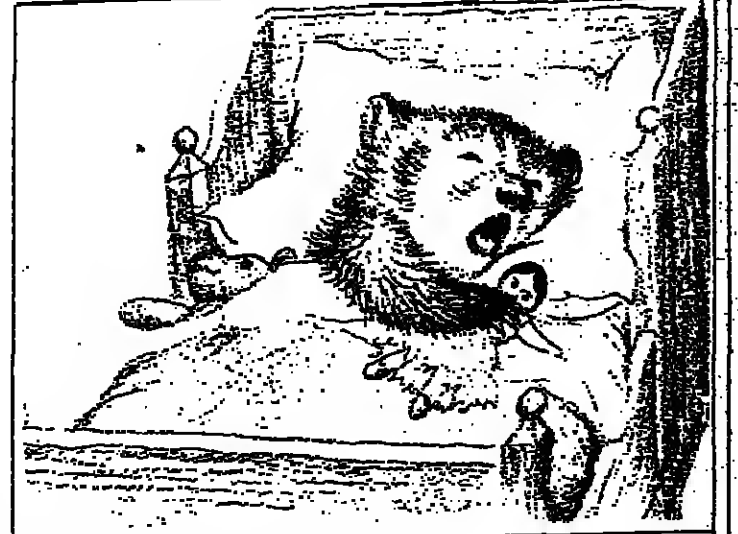
"There is the wind's job," said Father. "Every night the wind has to go around and blow all the curtains."

"How can the wind have a job?" said Frances.

"Everybody has a job," said Father. "I have to go to my office every morning at nine o'clock. That is my job. You have to go to sleep so you can be wide awake for school tomorrow. That is your job."

Frances said, "I know, but...."

Father said, "I have not



finished. If the wind does not blow the curtains, he will be out of a job. If I do not go to the office, I will be out of a job. And if you do not go to sleep now, do you know what will happen to you?"

"I will be out of a job?" said Frances.

"No," said Father.

"I will get a spanking?" said Frances.

"Right!" said Father.

"Good night!" said Frances, and she went back to her room. Frances closed the window and got into bed. Suddenly there was a noise at the window. She heard BUMP! and THUMP!

"I know something will get me this time," she thought.

She jumped out of bed and went to tell Mother and Father. When she got to their door, she thought about it some more and decided not to tell them.

She went back to her room. Frances heard the noise at the window again. She

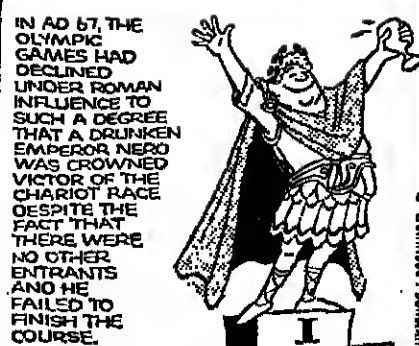
pulled the covers over her head. "I wonder what it is," she thought.

"If it is something very bad, Father will have to come and chase it away. She pulled off the covers and stood on her bed so she could look out the window. She saw a moth bumping against the window.

Bump and thump. His wings smacked the glass. Whack and smack! Whack and smack made Frances think of a spanking. And all of a sudden she was tired.

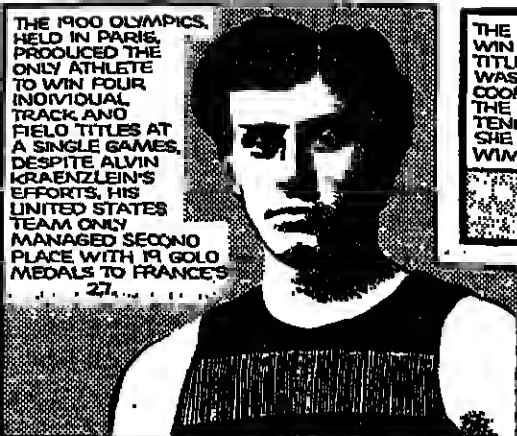
She lay down and closed her eyes so she could think better. She thought, "There were so many giants and tigers and scary and exciting things before, that I am pretty tired now. That is just a moth, and he is only doing his job, the same as the wind. His job is bumping and thumping, and my job is to sleep." So she went to sleep and did not get out of bed again until Mother called her for breakfast.

Factfile FROM THE GUINNESS BOOK OF RECORDS



IN AD 57, THE ROMAN EMPEROR CAESAR HAD DECLINED UNDER ROMAN INFLUENCE TO SUCH A DEGREE THAT A DRUNKEN EMPEROR NERO WAS CROWNED VICTOR OF THE CHARIOT RACE DESPITE THE FACT THAT THERE WERE NO OTHER ENTRANTS AND HE FAILED TO FINISH THE COURSE.

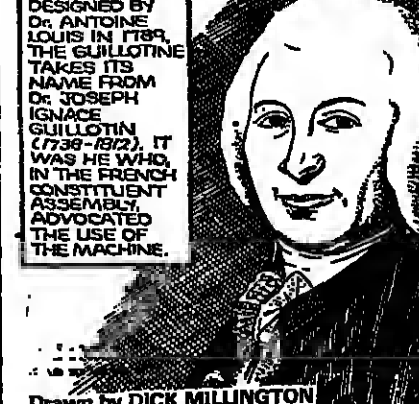
Drawn by DICK MILLINGTON



THE 1900 OLYMPICS, HELD IN PARIS, PRODUCED THE ONLY ATHLETE TO WIN FOUR INDIVIDUAL TRACK AND FIELD TITLES AT A SINGLE GAMES, DESPITE ALVIN KRAVZLEIN'S EFFORTS, HIS UNITED STATES TEAM ONLY MANAGED SECOND PLACE WITH 19 GOLD MEDALS TO FRANCESCA'S 27.

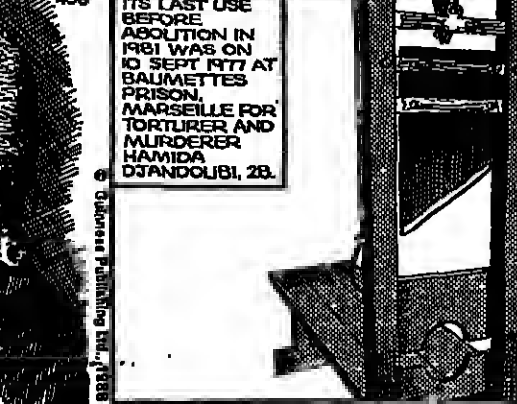


THE FIRST WOMAN TO WIN AN OLYMPIC TITLE AT ANY SPORT WAS CHARLOTTE COOPER (29) WHO WON THE LADIES SINGLES TENNIS GOLD IN 1900. SHE ALSO WON FIVE WIMBLEDON TITLES.

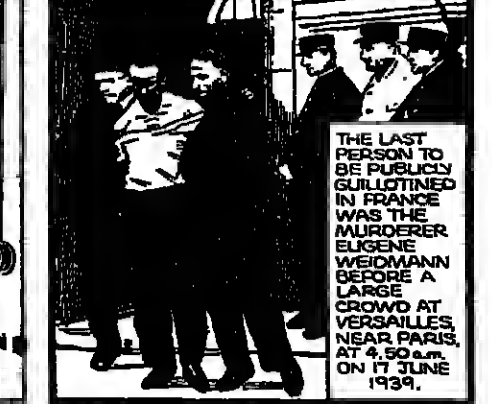


DESIGNED BY DR. ANTOINE LOUIS IN 1793, THE GUILLOTINE TAKES ITS NAME FROM DR. JOSEPH IGNAZIO GUILLOTIN (1738-1802). IT WAS HE WHO, IN THE FRENCH CONSTITUTIONAL ASSEMBLY, ADVOCATED THE USE OF THE MACHINE.

Drawn by DICK MILLINGTON



ITS LAST USE BEFORE ABOLITION IN 1981 WAS ON 10 SEP 1977 AT SAUMMETS PRISON, MARSEILLE FOR TORTURER AND MURDERER HANUJA OTANDOUBI, 28.



THE LAST PERSON TO BE PUBLICLY GUILLOTINED IN FRANCE WAS THE MURDERER EUGENE WEIDMANN BECAUSE A LARGE CROWD AT VERSAILLES NEAR PARIS, ON 17 JUNE 1939.

Asia

Where the armies of Alexander the Great marched

Alexander III of Macedonia was a mighty soldier whose ambition was to conquer the entire world and rule it. In the summer of 327 B.C., he led his army on a campaign towards Asia, entering lands that no one had previously dared to visit. He crossed the river Indus, entering the vast territory of India.

Alexander and his soldiers conquered every army that tried to stop them. He finally reached the Thar desert, a huge, unexplored and mysterious place that lay along what is now the border between India and Pakistan. Alexander was only twenty-nine years old and he wanted to march on eastwards on his great road to conquest. But his soldiers were tired and refused to go further in the tropical rain. Alexander agreed to go back and returned to his homeland. Because of his magnificent exploits he became known as Alexander the Great.

Where the 'Roof of the World' is located

The highest mountain in the world is in the Himalayas: it is Mount Everest. For hundreds of years nobody succeeded in

reaching the summit. The people of Tibet called it Chomolungma, meaning 'father of mountains', and believed that strange wild creatures wandered about the mountain's perpetual snows.

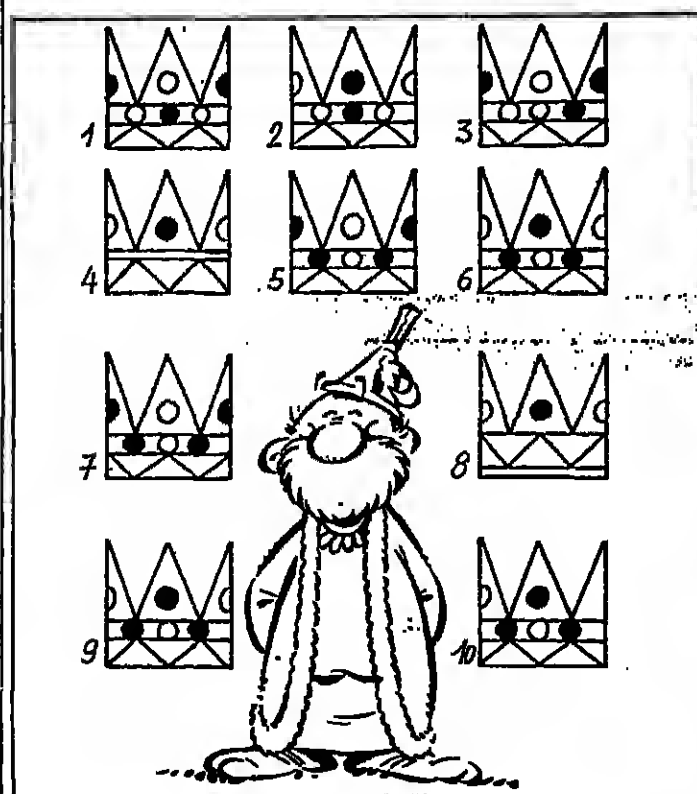
Many people thought it would be impossible to measure or climb Mount Everest. The British, who ruled India until after the Second World War, established an office in the 1800s to survey the mountain and measure it. The man who had the idea to start the office was George Everest and he also wanted to measure all the other mountains in the Himalayas. After much work the task was completed in 1852. The height was finally calculated as 8,840 metres (later established more precisely as 8,882 metres). The mountain was named after Everest in 1863.

Another century passed before the peak of Everest was finally reached. In 1953 Edmund Hillary, a New Zealander, and Sherpa Tenzing, a skilled mountaineer of Nepal, climbed to the summit. Hillary and Tenzing had to wear oxygen masks to help them breathe in the thin air. The two climbers planted the flags of Britain, Nepal, India and the United Nations on the peak on which man had never before set foot.



Crown court

Which of these crowns are identical



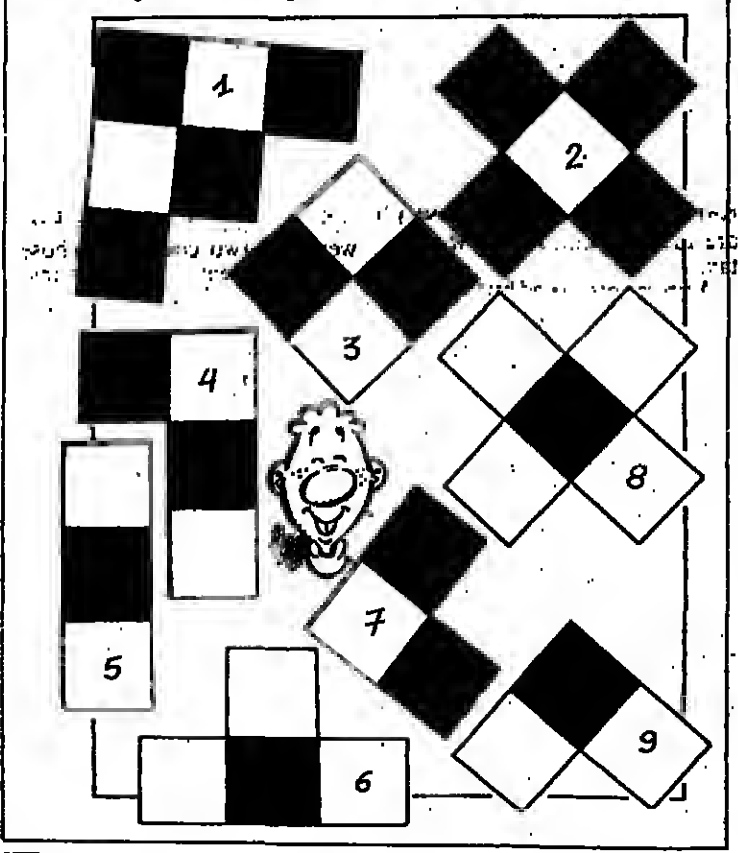
Hitchy feet

Which two of the small pictures are exact copies of parts of the large picture?



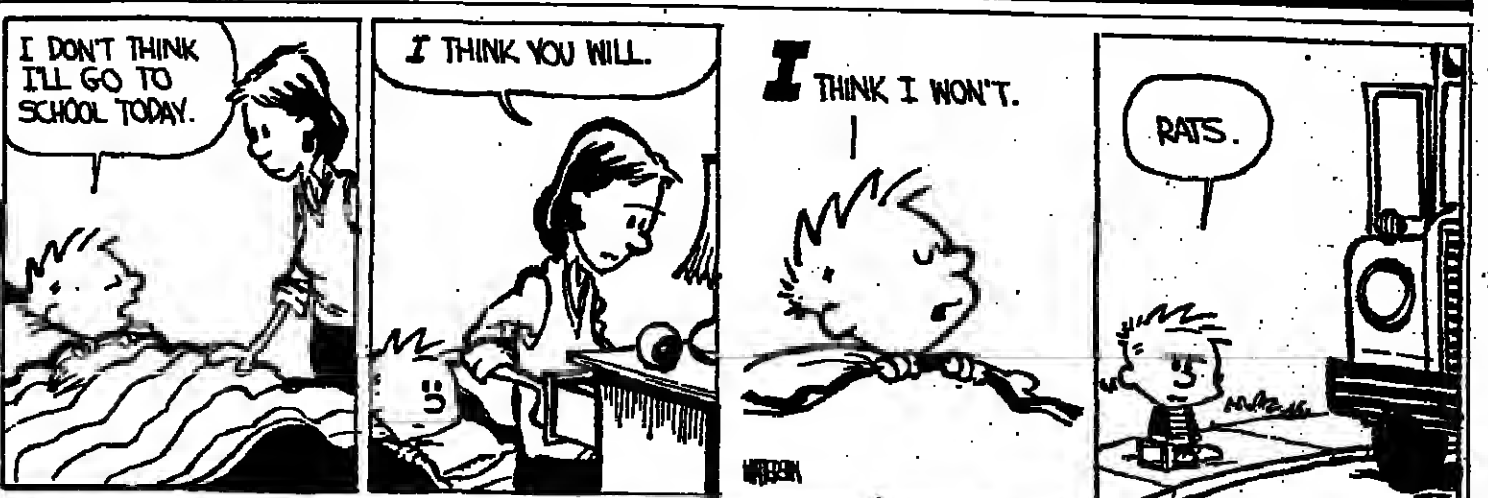
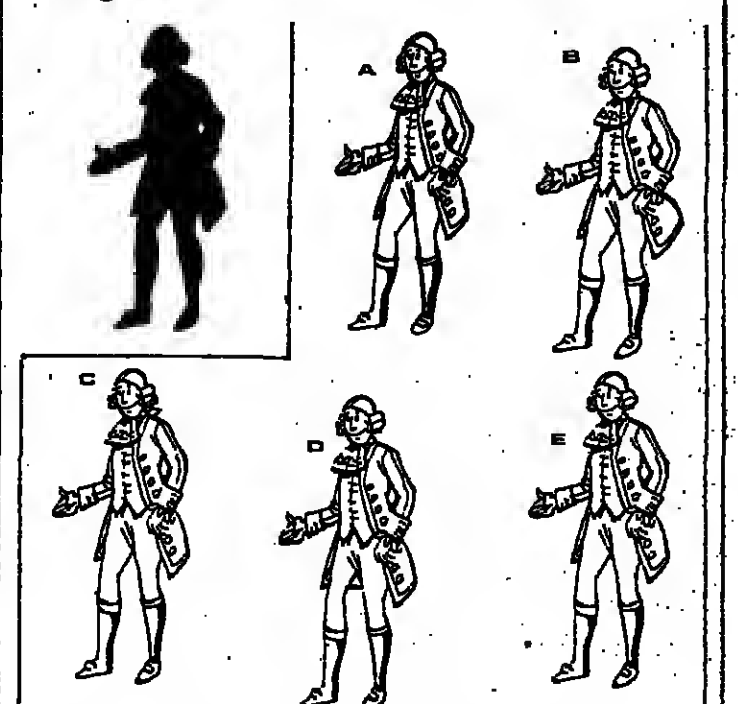
Check-mates

These nine pieces fit together to form a six-by-six checkerboard. However, either one of the two pieces has one square too many. Which two pieces are they?



Shadow cabinet

To which of the five lettered gentlemen does the shadow belong?



BUSINESS & FINANCE

Energy expert calls for more solar use in rural areas

LAGOS, April 18, (Opecna): A professor of mechanical engineering at the Oluwole University, Ilesha, has called for a shift of emphasis towards the use of renewable resources such as solar energy in Nigeria's rural areas.

In an inaugural lecture at the university, Prof. Oluwole said that rural areas depended mainly on wood for fuel which had led to serious ecological problems of deforestation in some parts.

He pointed out that research into solar energy devices and wind machines, such as solar crop dryers, water heaters and pumps together with a variety of wind turbines producing electricity and mechanical power, had reached an advanced stage.

Some of these devices, he added, were ready for commercialisation.

Solutions

Mojoia stressed that the solutions to the energy problem should not end with measures to improve the activities of the National Electric Power Authority.

"What we need is to painstakingly evolve and execute an all-embracing national energy policy which, among other things, would catalogue and integrate all our renewable and non-renewable, commercial and non-commercial energy options," he said.

The professor commended that Nigeria should limit the rate of depletion of its non-renewable energy resources while intensifying efforts to develop renewable energy resources like geothermal energy as well as direct and indirect solar power.

NSC deposits exempt from wealth tax

NEW DELHI, April 18: The government has clarified that deposits made under the National Saving Scheme (NSC) are totally exempt from wealth tax.

A press note issued by the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) says that the deposits under the NSC contained in Clause (XXVIB) of sub-section (1) of Section 5 of the Wealth Tax Act is not subject to a limit of Rs. 5 lakhs contained in sub-section (1A) of Section 5 of that Act.

Accordingly, the last sentence of paragraph 31.1 of the Board's circular No. 495 dated September 22, 1987, may be treated as modified, says the press note.

US crude prices could even rise above \$20 a barrel

World market expects oil output cut

LONDON, April 18, (Reuters): Moves by Opec to cooperate with other producers to prop oil prices have sent them higher without the organisation having to sacrifice any output, but the market expects a production cut when the two sides meet late in April.

Joint output cuts of between 600,000 to one million barrels per day by Opec and the other sellers who have been invited to talks at its Vienna headquarters on April 20 are vital to erase surpluses and stop prices falling, market analysts say.

The price of British North Sea Brent crude oil, a barometer of world trends, jumped 13 per cent to \$17 a barrel on news a week ago that the meeting was being arranged, to be followed by a full Opec conference.

"A production cut is built into the higher price. Anything in excess of 600,000 is enough," said Fergus MacLeod, an oil analyst with Barclays de Zoete Wedd in London.

"The market is now convinced that non-Opec (oil producers) will cut production and Opec will

cut production," said Joseph Stanislaw, managing director of Cambridge Energy Research Associates, at an oil seminar at Tokyo.

Forecast

But he and other analysts forecast a price slump if the meeting failed to come up with a cut.

A pact between Opec and non-Opec would keep prices close to the organisation reference price of \$18 through a period of slack demand until the next Opec meeting in June after which demand is expected to pick up, the analysts said.

Paul Mitok of Salomon Brothers in New York, said US crude oil prices could even rise above \$20 a barrel in the second half of 1988 due to growing seasonal demand and cooperation on output levels between Opec and non-Opec.

He expected Opec and non-Opec oil producers would agree to a combined production cut of about one million barrels daily.

The fact that the meeting was postponed by three days and that one of the invitees, Colombia, said it would not attend did not

ruffle the market.

MacLeod said key invitees Mexico and Egypt would be there and the postponement was positive as it meant serious efforts to cooperate were taking place.

"Talk that Norway might attend has more than offset Colombia's refusal," he said.

Opec's Vienna headquarters had teleaxed invitations to Oman, China, Malaysia, Angola, Colombia, Egypt and Mexico.

Opec President Rilwanu Lukman of Nigeria said on April 9 after a meeting of the Opec price committee — which consists of Saudi Arabia, Nigeria, Indonesia, Venezuela and Algeria — that Norway and the Soviet Union might come along.

Agreement

That price committee meeting was called after Brent prices hit 16-month lows around \$14 a barrel in mid-March.

Under an agreement signed in December, 12 of Opec's 13 members are supposed to keep their output below a ceiling of 15.06 million barrels daily to defend the \$18 price. The deal excluded Iraq which refused to sign

because it could not get quota as big as Gulf war for Iran's.

Further output cuts have been advocated by price "hawks" such as Iran and Algeria, but such Gulf states as Saudi Arabia and Kuwait have been reluctant to drive prices too high.

The pricing committee, however, surprised the market by announcing the unprecedented meeting with the non-Opec settlers.

The seven nations invited recently met in London to discuss prices and account for 8.4 million barrels daily, four million of which is exported.

If the two sides fail to agree MacLeod said prices would fall by about \$2 a barrel to the levels they were prior to the announcement of the non-Opec/Opec meeting.

"The expectations are now in place... they must be met or the prices go down," Stanislaw said.

Analysts said prices were unlikely to repeat the 1985-86 collapse when they fell from \$30 to nine when quotas were virtually ignored.

It was still unclear what form any output cuts would take. Deputy Oil Minister Kazempour Ardabili of Iran said he wanted cuts of between five and 10 per cent.

Indonesian Oil Minister Giandjar Kartasasmita said that between them, Opec and non-Opec producers could make output cuts of between 700,000 and 800,000 barrels daily. He said this could be done by getting Opec members to abide strictly by existing organisation-assigned quotas while the non-Opec sellers cut output by up to half a million barrels daily to pre-1987 levels.

Deal

"Non-Opec has the outlines for a deal but no deal has been struck yet," said Stanislaw. But he expects the non-Opec sellers to offer to cut output only by up to 300,000 barrels daily.

The minimum needed by Opec to protect prices is a statement saying nations now over-producing would go back to their quotas, taking some 300,000 barrels out of the market, Stanislaw said.

UK house prices rising

IN March the Halifax House Price Index showed house prices rising nationally by an annual rate of 18.2 per cent, the highest rate of increase since the index began in 1983.

Early spring weather has boosted demand significantly and Halifax Estate Agents report very strong demand from homebuyers throughout the country.

At a regional level, house price inflation is now highest in the regions bordering Greater London and the South East where price rises have steadied at around 23 per cent and 26 per cent.

The highest rises between first quarter 1987 and first quarter 1988 have been in East Anglia 39.3 per cent and South West 27.7 per cent while in the West Midlands prices accelerated sharply to 22.1 per cent.

By contrast the annual rates of inflation in most northern regions of the country were below 10 per cent, lower than the increase between last quarter of 1987 and the first quarter of 1988 in East Anglia.

The second Halifax County Supplement based on prices of semi-detached property is published for the first quarter of 1988 and clearly shows the ripple effect from the south east corner of the country.

Saudis and Cairo to activate ties

Saudi minister has talks with Mubarak

CAIRO, April 18, (UPI): Saudi Arabian Finance Minister Mohammed Abal Khalil began a visit to Cairo yesterday and said he was asked by King Fahd of Saudi Arabia and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak to activate relations between the two countries as soon as possible.

Abal Khalil met with Mubarak shortly after his arrival and said he conveyed a "friendly message reflecting the wish of King Fahd to activate the brotherly relations between Egypt and Saudi Arabia."

Fahd, he said, hopes "that this will be realised as soon as possible."

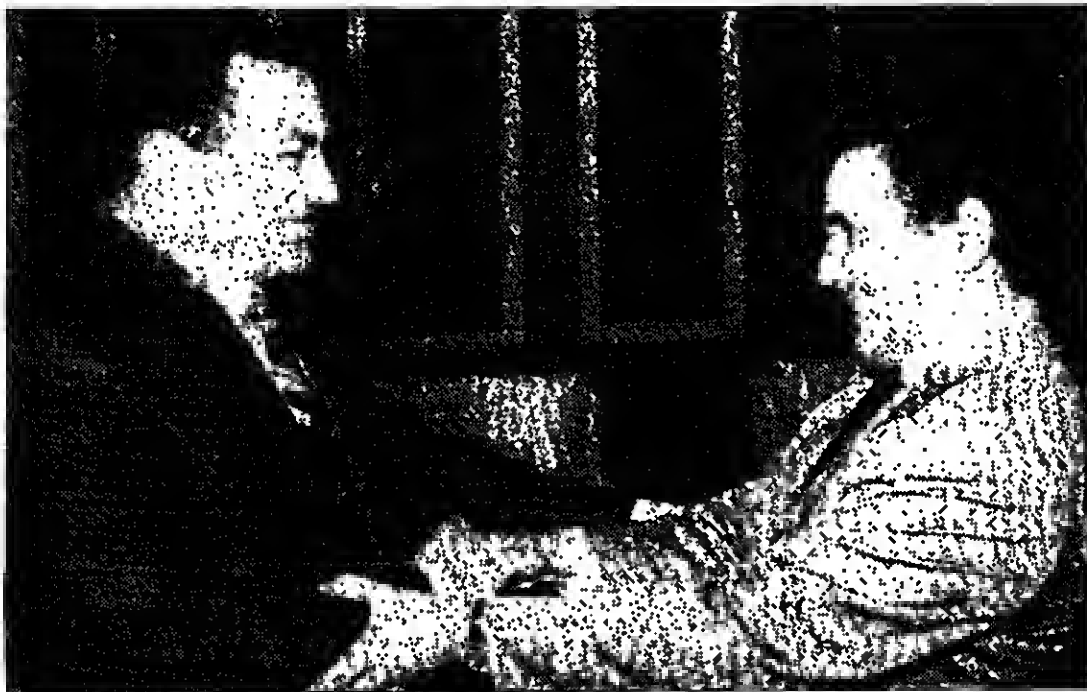
Object

The object of his visit to Cairo, Abal Khalil said, is to "discuss ways of expanding and strengthening economic relations between the two countries. Those ways, he said, are the subject of his instructions too."

Saudi Arabia and the majority of Arab states restored diplomatic relations with Egypt following an Arab League summit in Amman last November. The action ended a boycott that began in 1979 in protest against the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty.

There are old agreements and we will discuss ways of reviving them," Abal Khalil said.

"There is also a Saudi invest-



Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak (left) greets Saudi Arabian Minister of Finance and National Economy, Mohammed Abal Khalil, who arrived in Cairo on Sunday on a one-day visit. (Reuters wirephoto)

ment company that was established but has not started its activities yet," he said. "We will discuss the activation of this company."

Analysts said a rapprochement between Saudi Arabia,

the Arab World's richest country, and Egypt, the Arab world's most populous and strongest power, could signal the birth of an alliance that must be reckoned with.

Egypt's ailing economy could

use an influx of Saudi cash while Saudi Arabia will continue to need Egyptian manpower for years to come, the analysts said.

Fahd is expected to visit Egypt following the Muslim month of Ramadan that began on Sunday.

US economic outlook shifts, higher interest rates likely

NEW YORK, April 18, (Reuters): The US economic outlook has shifted abruptly from steady growth and low inflation to a riskier prospect of strong expansion coupled with a rising cost of living, economic analysts say.

After a larger-than-expected US trade deficit for February rocked financial markets last week, the Federal Reserve Bank seemed left with little choice but to raise interest rates in a battle to cool an economy that may be overheating, they say.

The US Central Bank under the chairmanship of Alan Greenspan has already shown willingness to act quickly to reinforce its anti-inflationary policy. And, although the Fed is cautious, the huge deficit may soon force its hand.

"What we are forced with is low unemployment, high capacity utilisation and a cheap dollar, all of which means a lot of inflation in the economy," said Neal Soss, chief economist at First Boston Corp.

The widening in the US trade deficit to \$13.83 billion in February from January's \$12.44 billion gap caused havoc in world financial markets last Thursday.

With both rising imports and exports flashing signs of an economy overheating, Wall Street's Dow Jones industrial average lost 101 points and US treasury bond prices plunged.

The dollar came under attack, prompting an almost immediate test for leaders of the west's Group of Seven industrial nations. Just the day before, they reaffirmed their commitment to maintaining stable foreign exchange rates.

They reacted with what traders think were substantial dollar purchases on foreign exchange markets.

As if the trade figures were not enough, the markets got another jolt on the inflation front on

Friday, with news of a 0.6 per cent rise in the March producer price index (PPI).

The rise — double economists' forecasts — showed sharp gains in almost all components and sent bond prices tumbling around three-quarters of a point. The dollar succumbed to further selling, although this was temporarily stalled once again by the concerted efforts of the major central banks.

Slowed

First Boston's Soss commented that the economy expanded at a seasonally adjusted 4.8 per cent annual rate in the fourth quarter of 1987. Although first-quarter gross national product probably slowed to around 2.5 per cent, "the slowdown won't last, it will only accelerate," he said.

A month ago economists were forecasting steady but slow growth in the economy, coupled with low inflation, a situation they described at the time as the best of both worlds — for the markets and for the Federal Reserve.

But as the figures for March emerged, growth was seen to be stronger and economists began to rethink their forecasts.

The trade figures and Friday's PPI increase finally hurled the market. The earlier signs of a pickup in the economy and inflation had been enough to lead the Fed to reverse a modest easing in

monetary policy it initiated in late January.

Economists say that over the past few weeks, the Fed has shown a preference for a federal funds rate — for overnight lending between banks — in the 6.75 to 6.875 per cent range, up from a previous range of 6.5 to 6.625 per cent.

Although the sensitive funds rate was easier last week, money market economists look for the rate to come under seasonal pressures in the near term. This will make it more difficult to discern any shift in Fed policy, they said.

The PPI increase, which translates into an annual funds rate of around five per cent, "suggests it is unrealistic to expect inflation rates of three to four per cent any more," said Robert Chandross, chief economist at Lloyds Bank Plc, North America.

But while the numbers may be worrying, economists are reluctant to say the Fed will move quickly.

Jobless

"The Fed is on the horns of a dilemma," Chandross said. He expected the Central Bank would wait until jobless figures for April were released early in May. But he commented that the Fed often uses times of uncertainty to tighten monetary policy.

Despite expectations that the Fed will need to tighten, analysts stopped short at forecasting a rise in the discount rate for now.

Iraqi technical aid for Sudan

BAGHDAD, April 18, (Opecna): Iraq is extending technical aid and training facilities to Sudan to develop its oil industry, according to Oil Minister Issam Abdul Raheem Al Chalabi.

In a statement published in the local daily, Al Jumhuriyah, he said Iraq was also sending oil experts to the country to undertake drilling an oil exploration

operations and to assess the country's oil potential.

Referring to the country's keenness to develop Arab oil industries, Al Chalabi said Iraq was actively participating in joint Arab energy projects either within the framework of the organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec), or through direct cooperation with other Arab countries.

World Business Summary

Retail prices in Chinese cities soar in first quarter

BEIJING, April 18, (AP): Retail prices in China's main cities continued to soar during the first quarter of 1988, with Shanghai residents forced to pay almost twice as much for vegetables as last year. The official China Daily reported today that retail prices in 32 large and medium-sized cities were up 13.4 per cent over the same period in 1987. It said food prices were up 17.9 per cent and vegetable prices jumped by 48.7 per cent. Inflation, a result of producers failing to meet rising consumer demands, is regarded as China's biggest economic problem and a serious threat to economic reform programmes. Last year, the official inflation rate was 7.3 per cent, although double-digit inflation plagued most cities, with some food prices rising 20 and 30 per cent. The daily said food prices in Shanghai, China's largest city were up 19.1 per cent, and vegetables were 89 per cent more expensive. It said vegetable prices rose at an even faster pace in another five of the 32 cities surveyed. The cities were not named.

In Beijing, food prices were up 11.2 per cent, ranking the capital 28th among the 32 cities, while vegetables increased by 27.9 per cent, 24th highest. The daily quoted officials of the Beijing municipal government as saying vegetable supplies from nearby suburbs dropped 14.5 per cent in the first quarter because of a reduction in land under cultivation. Other goods in short supply in the capital were enamelware, matches, soap, toilet paper, colour TVs, cotton underclothes and towels, it said.

The report said vegetable supplies should pick up next month and that the number of breeding sows in the Beijing area has more than tripled to 50,000. Last December, pork rationing was imposed in Beijing and other major Chinese cities because of rising demand, fewer pigs being raised by farmers discouraged by rising feed costs and low government-set prices for pigs.

Demand for Nigerian coal to reach 5m tonnes by '92

LAGOS, April 18, (Opecna): Demand for Nigerian coal will be about five million tonnes a year by 1992, the general manager of the Nigerian Coal Corporation, F.N. Ugwu, said here at a symposium organised by the Ministry of Mines, Power and Steel. He said that of the five million tonnes, the Ajakuta steel plant would require 1.50 million tonnes and other industrial establishments 0.50 million tonnes. One million tonnes will be for export. "It is imperative that the Nigerian Coal Corporation should be revitalised for the country to meet projected requirements," he stated. According to the general manager, refurbishment and expansion programmes should be undertaken at Oyeamase and Okpara underground mines in Ewu, and at Owoyaka and Okaba open cast sites in Benue state.

He said about \$32 million was required to enable the corporation to produce the anticipated coal requirements of the Ajakuta steel plant alone. Ugwu also suggested that the federal government should provide adequate fund for full-scale exploration and exploitation of other known local deposits.

He proposed that the government should "as a matter of priority" initiate a national research and development programme to effectively coordinate all coal research and development activities in the country.

Iran, Syria discuss oil ties

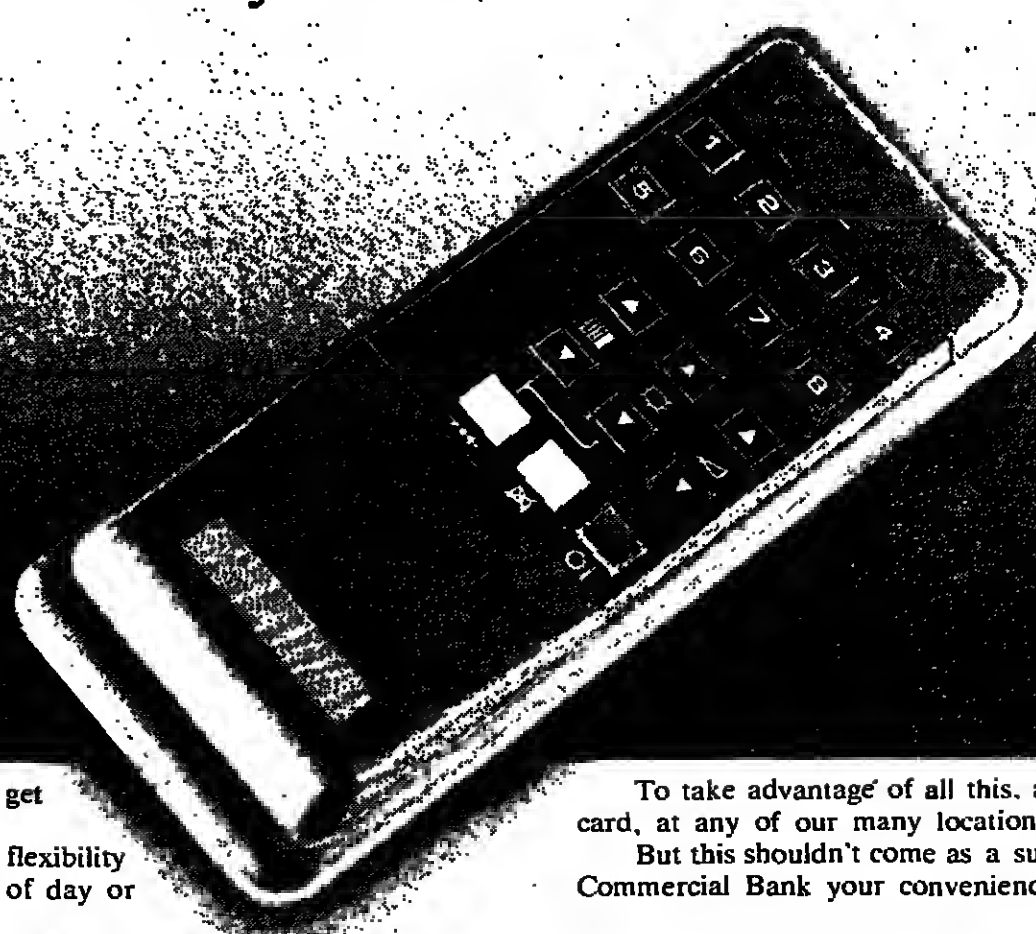
TEHRAN, April 18, (Opecna): Iranian Petroleum Minister Chaharmirza Aghazadeh held talks here at the weekend with visiting Syrian Minister of Oil and Mineral Wealth Dr Matanyas Habib.

The ministers discussed protocols related to Iran's oil aid to Syria including the sale of further quantities of crude. Aghazadeh, who accepted an invitation to visit Syria at a later date, told his counterpart that Iran had the potential to satisfy the needs of Syrian oil refineries. Meanwhile, at a meeting with Iranian Mines and Metals Minister Mohammad Reza Ayatollahi, Habib announced his government's readiness to cooperate with Iran in the field of phosphates.

The Iranian minister said that his country would be willing to establish a joint phosphate fertilizer plant with Syria and exchange views on mineral exploration.

He added that Iran was in the process of setting up a gold processing plant which should be ready by the summer.

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WORLD STOCK MARKETS

LONDON

(Alpha Stocks)

NAME	LAST	INCHCAPE	702/0
ABBIE LFE	260/0	JAGUAR	282/0
ADT LTD	111.0	LABROCK	310.0
ALD LYONS	397/0	LAND SEC	558/0
AMSTRAD	56.34	LAPORTE	386.0
ARGYLE GP	202.0	LASMO	363.0
ASDA GP	168.0	LEGAL+GEN	269/0
BAA PP	112/0	LONRHO	241/0
BTR	243/0	LUCAS IND	537.0
BAT INDS	422.0	MAGNET	232/0
BARCLAYS	430/0	MARKS+SP	186.0
BASS	853/0	MAXWELL C	242/0
BEAZER	182.0	METAL BOX	191.0
BEECHAMS	440/0	MEPC	526/0
BET ORD	229.0	NEXT	269/0
BTCC PLC	322.0	NTN FOODS	252/0
BLUE ARROW	117/0	P & O FID	587/0
BLUE CIRC	440/0	PEARL	433.0
BOC GP	380.0	PEARSON	675.0
BOOTS CO	222.0	PILKINGTON	208/0
BPB INDS	283.0	PLESSET	52.00
BR COMM	283.0	PRUDENTIAL	787/0
BR AIRWAY	164.0	RACAL	224.0
BR AEROSP	407/0	RANK HVS	332.0
BR GAS RG	178.0	RANK ORG	698.0
B.P.	277.0	RICKITT+CO	817.0
B.P.-NEW	79/0	REDLAND	423.0
BR TELCOM	246.0	REED	385/0
BRITTOIL	520/0	RTL BK SC	392/0
BUNZL	142.0	RMC GRP	430/0
BURNHAM OL	548/0	ROBERTS	498/0
BURTON	240/0	ROTHMAN B	345.0
CABLESWR	24.50	ROUNTREE	717/0
CADBURYS	297/0	ROUNTREE	395/0
CAVITY	242/0	ROYAL INS	437/0
COM VTY	335.0	SATCHI	388/0
CONS GOLD	925.0	SATINSBURT	263/0
COOKSONS	558/0	SCOT+NEW	275/0
COURTAUD	352.0	SEARS	129/0
DAEWOO	278/0	SEDEWICKE	225.0
DCE CP	185/0	SHELL	126/0
DIXONS	178.0	SMITH+NEPH	126/0
ENG CHINA	398.0	SMITHS A	283.0
ENTER OIL	379/0	STC	43.00
FERRANTI	78.0	STOREHSE	272/0
FISONS	234/0	SUN ALITA	940.0
GEN ACCID	915.0	TABACCO	247.0
GEN ELEC	151/0	TATE+LILE	760/0
GLAXO	972/0	TESCO	153.0
GRANDMET	482/0	THORN ENI	327/0
GUS A	067/0	TRAF HSE	327/0
GUARD RTL	887.0	TSE	101.0
GKN	300.0	T+N	185.0
GUINNESS	298/0	TRUSTHSE	230.0
HANSON	585/0	ULTRAMAR	273/0
HUKER SID	453/0	UNILEVER	460.0
HILLSDOWN	285/0	UNIGATE	270/0
ICI	975.0	UTD BISC	277/0
INI	194.0	UTD MNSR	428.0
		WELLCOME	465.0
		WITBRO IN	308/0
		WILLIAMS	308.0
		WILLIS FB	22.00
		WINPEY GE	45.00
		WOOLWORTH	266/0

LONDON

(Beta Stocks)

NAME	CLOSE	OPEN
2ND ALICE	698/0	700/0
600 GROUP	104/0	104/0
A.B.ELECT	433/0	435/0
AAH HLD	260/0	261/0
AARONSON	122/0	123/0
ACRE OIL	195.0	195.0
ADDISON	96/0	95/0
ADVEST	308/0	308/0
ALEX WIKW	144/0	145/0
ALLO COR	125/0	126/0
ALLO IR B	225/0	225/0
ALLD PLMT	51/0	52/0
ALLIANCE	777/0	777/0
AMARI	176/0	176/0
AMEC	390/0	391/0
AMER TRST	115/0	115/0
AMERSHAM	447/0	450/0
AMT NLTHC	267/0	267/0
ANGLO O'S	200/0	200/0
APPLYARD	394/0	393/0
APRICOT	100/0	100/0
APV PLC	109/0	110/0
AQUAS.A.	89/0	90/0
ARAN ENGT	75/0	76/0
ARCHER AJ	160/0	160/0
ARLINGTON	192/0	193/0
ARMSTRONG	133/0	134/0
ASHLEY LA	114/0	115/0
ASTREWS	282/0	285/0
AUS REE A	227/0	227/0
AUST REED	348/0	345/0
AVON RUBB	678/0	678/0
B.MEINILL	162/0	163/0
BAILL JAP	508/0	506/0
BANKER IT	67/0	67/0
BARKER DO	146/0	147/0
BART DEV	189/0	190/0
BATHNES C	32/0	32/0
BEJAN GP	167/0	167/0
BELHAVEN	46/0	47/0
BELLANT	241/0	243/0
BELDON HP	58/0	59/0
BENTALLS	190/0	190/0
BERTSORD	282/0	282/0
BERTSORD	282/0	282/0
BIRKBEY	364/0	365/0
BH GROUP	105/0	105/0
BIRMID OL	378/0	378/0
BK OF SCO	513/0	514/0
BLACKWOOD	50/4	51/0
BLACK LE 2	17/4	18/4
BONNET+P	35/0	36/0
BOOSE MAS	256/0	257/0
BOODINGTN	127/0	128/0
BOODINGTN	394/0	395/0
BOOTHENR	340/0	338/0
BORTHWICK	45/0	45/0
BOUATHE	384/0	385/0
BOUTHORPE	165/0	167/0
BR ASSETS	64/0	64/0
BR DREGIT	119/0	120/0
BR LAND	305/0	305/0

World Indices

INDEX	LATEST	1/PREV-DAYS/2	PREV-OR	PREV-YR
FT 30 ORD	1419.6	1415.7	1415.7	1373.3
FT 500 SHR	0	1012.4	1012.4	957.6
FT ALL SHR	919.14	919.14	919.14	870.22
FT GOV SEC	91.26	91.26	91.26	88.49
FT GOLD MN	217.5	217.5	217.5	302.1
FT NINES F	443.01	443.01	443.01	450.65
FT OIL	1835.9	1835.9	1835.9	1663.6
FT ULD DLR	129.92	130.82	130.82	115.04
FT ULD STG	101.94	103.41	103.41	90.79
FT ULD LOC	113.00	113.82	113.82	99.08

London Stock Market Report

U.K. STOCKS NEAR DAY'S LOWS IN LATE TRADING. LONDON, APRIL 18, REUTER - SHARE PRICES LOST GROUND IN LATE TRADING, AFTER THE BANK OF ENGLAND DISAPPOINTED THE MARKET BY FAILING TO SIGNAL A CUT IN U.K. BASE RATES AFTER REVEALED STRENGTH IN STERLING. SENTIMENT WAS FURTHER SOFTENED BY A LOWER START ON WALL STREET, DEALERS SAID.

AT 1438 GMT THE FTSE 100 SHARE INDEX WAS 9.5 UP AT 1,788.1 JUST ABOVE THE DAY'S LOW OF 1,784.9, HAVING TOUCHED A HIGH OF 1,802.4 EARLIER. TURNOVER AT 1400 GMT WAS 328.4 MLN SHARES. OIL SHARES HELD UP BEST AGAINST THE LOWER TREND AS THE CRUDE OIL PRICE HELD MOST OF ITS EARLIER STRENGTH ON NEWS OF HOSTILITIES IN THE GULF.

STERLING CONTINUED TO STRADDLE 3.15 MARKS IN LATE TRADING, A LEVEL IT ACHIEVED EARLIER TODAY, WHICH PROMPTED SPECULATION THAT U.K. BASE RATES WERE SET TO FALL FROM THE CURRENT EIGHT PCT.

HUNT OPERATORS WERE NOT SURPRISED AT THE BANK OF ENGLAND'S RELUCTANCE TO SANCTION A FALL IN BASE RATES SO SOON AFTER THE PREVIOUS CUT, AND FELT THAT STERLING WOULD BE CLOSER TO 3.20 MARKS BEFORE SUCH A MOVE WOULD BE ALLOWED.

MONEY MARKET RATES EASED FURTHER THIS AFTERNOON DESPITE THE BANK'S STANCE, WITH THE KEY THREE-MONTH INTERBANK RATE STANDING 3/16 POINT OFF AT 7-7/8 PCT.

London Gold

LONDON, APRIL 18, REUTER - GOLD BULLION SLIPPED FROM ITS EARLY AFTERNOON HIGHS TOWARDS THE CLOSE WITH THE MARKET MEETING OVERHEAD RESISTANCE, ALTHOUGH PRICES REMAINED FIRMER.

GOLD TOUCHED 460.50 DLRS AT ONE STAGE, THE HIGHEST SINCE THE END OF JANUARY, BEING PULLED HIGHER BY FIRMNESS IN NEW YORK AND INCREASED TENSION IN THE MIDEAST GULF, DEALERS SAID.

HOWEVER, RESISTANCE AND SELLING WAS NOTICEABLE AROUND THE 460 DLR LEVEL, AND BY THE CLOSE SPOT METAL HAD FALLEN BACK TO 459.25/459.75 DLRS AN OUNCE, STILL ABOVE AN OPENING 456.90/457.40 AND FRIDAY'S CLOSE OF 456.00/456.50 DLRS.

London Money Market

LONDON, APRIL 18, REUTER - MONEY MARKET INTEREST RATES WERE 3/16 POINT LOWER FROM THREE MONTHS TO ONE YEAR BUT THE BANK OF ENGLAND HELD ITS DEALING RATES UNCHANGED AFTER SOME PRESSURE FROM THE MARKET, DEALERS SAID.

ANOTHER FIRM, SHOWING FROM STERLING ON THE FOREIGN EXCHANGES LED TO SPECULATION OVER A FURTHER CUT IN U.K. BASE RATES. THE DISCOUNT HOUSES OFFERED BILLS AT BELOW THE BANK'S CURRENT 7-7/8 PCT DEALING RATE THIS MORNING BUT WERE REBUFFED.

STERLING STOOD NEAR 3.15 MARKS BUT DEALERS SAID IT WOULD HAVE TO MOVE UP TO NEARER 3.20 BEFORE BASE RATES FELL AGAIN. THREE MONTHS INTERBANK WAS 3/16 POINT OFF AT EIGHT 7-7/8 PCT.

Foreign Exchange

DLR	STG	DMK	FR	OPG
DLR	1.8965/75	1.6595	5.6380	NOON
STG	1.8943/53	3.1470/1505	10.6840/6975	NOON
DMK	1.6581/6661	3.141/155	29.37/53	NOON
FR	5.64/652	10.6820/7000	339.260/900	NOON
SFR				1300
HFL	1.8650	3.5335	112.165	33.04
ECU	1.25066	0.659459	2.07610	7.05249
SDR	1.38652	0.737256	2.30759	7.82795
YEN	124.20/30	235.39/71		NOON
SDR RATES	15/04/88	OTHERS	18/04/1988	

NEW YORK

(Alpha Stocks)

NAME	OPEN	MID-OAY
A BSCH COM	31/4	31/5
ATLANTIC R	88/4	88/3
AAR CORP	22/6	23/1
AETNA LIFE	42/5	42/6
ALASKA AIR	16/0	16/2
ALCAN ALUM	28/0	28/0
ALCO STND	22/4	22/4
AM CYNARD	48/4	48/7
AM ELET P4	26/4	26/4
AM HON PRO	78/6	79/0
AM HON PRO	79/5	79/7
AM STNDARD	76/2	76/2
AM STORES	59/2	59/0
AM TEL-TEL	26/5	26/6
AMOCO CORP	78/1	77/4
AMP INC	47/6	48/0
AMPCO PITT	0	14/7
AMR CORP	40/4	41/0
AMR GEN CO	30/3	30/6
AMERADA HE	29/6	29/2
ANTHEM ELE	11/6	11/5
APACHE CP	8/2	8/2
APACHE PET	2/7	2/7
ARMSTRONG	39/6	39/7
ASHLAND OIL	68/6	68/6
ASIA PACIF	6/2	6/2
ATL CORP	34/6	34/6
ATLANTIC R	29/0	29/0
AVERT INC	23/4	23/4
AVNET INC	25/6	26/0
AVON PRODS	24/1	24/1
BELL ATLAN	66/0	66/5
BCE INC	31/3	31/4
BELL-HOW	62/3	62/3
BETH STEEL	20/0	19/7
BEVERLY	6/3	6/3
BK BOSTON	23/2	23/1
BK BOSTN-A	0	48/4
BK NY-NY	31/1	31/3
BKAMERICA	10/1	10/1
BKAM SPEC	7/3	7/3
BOEING CO	45/7	46/1
BOISE CASB	46/0	46/0
BORDEN	51/0	51/1
BOHATER	32/2	32/2
BR TELECOM	46/2	46/2
BRIGGS-STR	32/2	32/2
BRIST-MYER	40/4	40/4
BRUNSWICK	21/1	21/1
BURDICK CP	14/5	14/5
C 3 INC	13/6	13/6
CABOT CORP	35/3	35/4
CAESARS MO	23/7	23/7
CA FREIGHT	21/5	21/5
CAS NAT GS	15/5	15/6
CASST-COKE	23/0	23/2
CATERPIL TR	61/2	61/1
CB IND	27/2	27/3
CBS	154/0	154/3
CELTEL CP	45/2	45/1
CELEST DAT	2/4	0
CHAMP INTL	34/2	34/2
CHAMP SPA	11/7	11/7
CHARTER CO	25/0	25/0
CHESMAN	34/7	34/7
CHENIC NY	23/4	23/1
CHEVRON	47/6	48/1
CHRYSLER	24/2	24/1
CHUBB CORP	53/1	53/1
CHUR FR CH	6/7	6/7
CIGNA CORP	43/6	43/7
CIR NTLAC	0	23/0
CIT CIT ST	29/0	29/0
CIRCLE K	12/2	12/3
CITICORP	19/1	18/7
CLARK EQUJ	27/6	27/6
CLOROX	29/6	29/6
COMBLL RES	26/6	26/6
COMBLL SP	26/6	26/6
CAN PAC	19/0	19/2
COACHMEN	7/7	8/1
COASTAL	29/6	29/6
COCA-COLA	37/4	38/1
COLECO	3/0	2/7
COLEMAN CO	0	0
COLG-PALIN	40/5	40/6
COLT INDS	16/7	16/6
COLUM GAS	27/7	27/4
COM EDISON	24/1	24/0
CONAGRA	25/0	24/7
CON EDISON	43/3	43/1
CONTINENTA	36/4	36/4
CONTL ILLN	0	0
CONTEL CP	34/0	34/2
CONTR DATA	24/3	24/2
COOPER T-R	35/6	35/6
COOPER CO	11/4	11/4
CORNING GL	51/3	51/5
CRANE	29/6	29/6
CRAT RES	80/0	80/2
CULINET	7/1	7/1
DANIEL IND	9/4	9/3
DAT GEN	23/5	23/6
DATAPoint	5/2	5/2
DATON RUD	37/2	37/2
DEC	100/1	101/4
DEERE-CO	45/0	45/7
DELTA AIR	48/7	49/1
DIAMOND SH	14/1	14/1
DIEBOLD	38/7	38/7
DISNET W	55/7	56/0
DOVER CORP	62/0	62/2
DOX CHEM	83/2	83/1
DOX JONES	30/3	30/3
DRESSER IH	33/6	33/5
DREYFUS	26/0	26/0
DUKE POWER	44/0	44/1
DUN BRAD	47/1	47/3
DUPONT	82/3	82/1
DUCESNE	14/5	14/6
DYNAMICS	22/6	23/0
E SYSTEMS	26/4	26/3
EAGLE PICH	31/0	30/7
EASTERN G	24/6	24/5
EMERSON RA	3/3	3/3
EMERT AIR	6/3	6/2
ENTPL CP	21/6	21/4
EOCON	43/5	43/5
FAM DOL ST	13/0	12/7
FED EXPRESS	45/6	46/5
FIELDCREST	19/1	19/3
FIN COR-AM	1/2	1/1
FIRESTONE	79/1	79/1
FMC CORP	31/0	31/0
FORD MOTOR	45/2	45/2
FORD HONAR	36/4	36/3
FOXBORO CO	29/1	29/0
FRCHLD IND	9/7	0
FST BANK	20/2	20/4
FST BOSTON	24/2	24/

KILWATT

BANK SECTOR	P.CLS	LT	HIGH	LOW	VOL	TRAD
-NATIONAL BANK	0.870	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-GULF BANK	0.330	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-COMMERCIAL BK	0.242	0.240	0.240	0.240	20000	-----
-AMLI BANK	0.273	0.273	0.273	0.273	140000	-----
-B.K.H.E	0.295	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-K.B.I.B.	0.370	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-BURGHAN BANK	0.238	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-K.F.HOUSE	0.410	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
INVESTMENT SECTOR						
-KWT INV. CO.	0.168	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-K.F.T.C.I.C.	0.210	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-K.I.I.C.	0.132	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-COM.FACILITIES	0.380	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-AMLIAN INV.	0.008	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-I.F.A.	0.090	0.100	0.100	0.100	60000	-----
-INT PEARL KWT	0.102	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
INSURANCE SECTOR						
-KWT INSURANCE	0.690	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-GULF INSURANCE	0.370	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-AMLIA INS. CO.	0.510	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-WARBA INS. CO.	0.415	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
REAL EST SECTOR						
-KWT R.EST. CO.	0.240	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-UNI R.EST. CO.	0.118	0.116	0.116	0.116	21330	-----
-NAT R.EST. CO.	0.224	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-SALMIAN R.E.	0.075	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-KWT PROJECTS	0.066	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-KWT R.E.I.COM	0.000	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
INDUSTRY SECTOR						
-KWT IND. CO.	0.510	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-KWT M.P. IND.	0.295	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-KWT CEMENT CO.	0.238	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-REF. IND. CO.	0.385	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-N.A.M.T.CO.	0.000	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-GULF CABLE	0.970	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-K.PH.IND. CO.	0.106	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-CONT.MARINE	0.350	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-K.SH.REP.CO.	0.042	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
SERVICES SECTOR						
-OVERLAND TRANS	0.081	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-K.N.C. CO.	0.190	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-KWT HOTELS CO.	0.174	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-P.WAREHOUSING	0.136	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-COM.MKT.CMPX.	0.020	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-MOBILE TELE.	0.355	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-KWT COMPUTER	0.190	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
FOOD SECTOR						
-K.N.C. CO.	0.160	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

	Buying	Selling
US dollar	27220	27356
Sterling	515405	519083
D.M.	163875	165194
S. fr	198322	200045
F. fr	048304	048676
L. lira	000220	000223
Jap. yeno	002195	002216
UAE dir	722007	725821
BAE dir	074099	074491
S. riyal	072556	072979
Q. riyal	074728	075206
Q. riyal	706638	711012

Interest Rates

CALL		ONE MONTH	THREE MONTHS
LDN	8-3/16 1/16	8 7/8	8 7-7/8
FFT	3.25/35	3.25/35	3.35/45
PAR	7-1/4 3/8	7-9/16 11/16	7-7/8 8-1/16
ZUR	1-7/8 2-1/8	1-3/4 2	1-3/4 2
BKK	4.30	6.00 1/8	6-1/16 3/16
ROM	9-7/8 10-3/8	10-1/8 10-5/8	10-3/8 10-7/8
AMS	3-15/16 4-1/16	3-15/16 4-1/16	4-0/0 4-1/8
TOK	3.2500 3125	3.7500 8125	3.8750 9375
EDI	6.81 6.93	6.00 6.12	6.25 6.37

PHILIPPINES MAKATI[illegible]

FRANKFURT

NAME	TYPE	LAST	PRICE
ALFONZ	01/2	207.0	226.8
ALFONZ	01/2	137.5	133.0
ALFONZ	01/2	185.0	198.0
ALFONZ	01/2	185.0	206.9
ALFONZ	01/2	270.0	127.0
ALFONZ	01/2	345.0	347.0
ALFONZ	01/2	327.0	324.0
ALFONZ	01/2	376.0	375.0
ALFONZ	01/2	518.0	517.0
ALFONZ	01/2	0	120.0
ALFONZ	01/2	231.7	250.5
ALFONZ	01/2	234.3	253.0
ALFONZ	01/2	637.0	628.0
ALFONZ	01/2	417.5	417.8
ALFONZ	01/2	351.0	345.0
ALFONZ	01/2	249.5	249.7
ALFONZ	01/2	159.0	159.0
ALFONZ	01/2	453.0	452.0
ALFONZ	01/2	253.0	253.0
ALFONZ	01/2	405.0	405.0
ALFONZ	01/2	258.0	259.0
ALFONZ	01/2	118.3	118.0
ALFONZ	01/2	192.5	192.0
ALFONZ	01/2	437.0	467.0
ALFONZ	01/2	401.0	396.0
ALFONZ	01/2	101.5	100.0
ALFONZ	01/2	682.0	605.5
ALFONZ	01/2	140.7	149.2
ALFONZ	01/2	164.5	164.0
ALFONZ	01/2	125.3	123.0
ALFONZ	01/2	523.0	515.0
ALFONZ	01/2	260.5	260.0
ALFONZ	01/2	535.5	534.5
ALFONZ	01/2	53.80	51.50
ALFONZ	01/2	604.0	610.0
ALFONZ	01/2	530.0	525.0
ALFONZ	01/2	162.5	163.0
ALFONZ	01/2	199.0	200.5
ALFONZ	01/2	206.0	206.0
ALFONZ	01/2	196.0	196.0
ALFONZ	01/2	271.5	275.0
ALFONZ	01/2	258.0	263.0
ALFONZ	01/2	443.5	447.0
ALFONZ	01/2	300.0	302.0
ALFONZ	01/2	355.3	355.0
ALFONZ	01/2	128.5	127.9
ALFONZ	01/2	267.0	268.0
ALFONZ	01/2	254.7	252.5
ALFONZ	01/2	168.0	169.0
ALFONZ	01/2	241.5	242.5

TOKYO

STOCK	PR	CLSE	MITSUB CP	1290	1326
AJINOMOTO	3380	3400	MITSUB EL	740	745
AKAI ELEC	621	633	MITSUB EST	2420	2470
AKI	974	970	MITSUB HWY	730	740
ASAHI GAS	1990	2060	MITSUB CO	809	810
ASAHI OPT	683	680	MITSUKOSHI	1750	1770
BANK TOKYO	1570	1580	MITSUMI EL	1270	1300
BRIDGESTON	1400	1410	NICHICOM	1430	1420
CANON	1250	1290	NIKON CMNT	785	780
CASIO COMP	1260	1250	NIKKO SEC	2050	2100
CHUGAI MNG	0	1610	NIP ELEC	2130	2190
CITIZEN W	600	600	NIP KKOKAN	405	405
D-ICHI KAN	3190	3220	NIP OIL	1200	1220
DAI NIP IK	773	778	NIP STEEL	478	482
DAI NIP TP	2600	2680	NIP YUSEN	626	638
DAI NIP SC	1080	1050	NIS MOTOR	925	940
DAI NIP TO	520	520	NOMURA SEC	4260	4350
DAICEL	865	858	OHBA CO	1010	990
DAIWA H	1880	1920	OLYMPUS	1160	1150
DAIWA SEC	2740	2780	RENTA OCN	845	860
DAEWANG	2740	2800	PIONEER	3260	3340
DAEWANG	2740	2800	RENOVA	938	940
DAEWANG	2740	2800	RICON	1290	1300
DAEWANG	2740	2800	SANKYO	2130	2240
DAEWANG	2740	2800	SANTO ELEC	2350	2340
DAEWANG	2740	2800	SEIJI ST	2350	2340
DAEWANG	2740	2800	SEKISUI PE	1990	2030
DAEWANG	2740	2800	SHARP	1060	1070
DAEWANG	2740	2800	SHISEIDO	1950	1960
DAEWANG	2740	2800	SONEY	5400	5540
DAEWANG	2740	2800	SUMITOMO	1150	1140
DAEWANG	2740	2800	TAISEI	975	980
DAEWANG	2740	2800	TAISHO MRN	1170	1180
DAEWANG	2740	2800	TAIHEI CH	3030	3090
DAEWANG	2740	2800	TEIJIN	830	830
DAEWANG	2740	2800	TKO NEW LX	155	173
DAEWANG	2740	2800	TOKIO MRN	2100	2110
DAEWANG	2740	2800	TOKYO ELEC	1190	1220
DAEWANG	2740	2800	TOKYO GAS	1120	1140
DAEWANG	2740	2800	TOKYO POAR	6110	6160
DAEWANG	2740	2800	TORAY IND	817	830
DAEWANG	2740	2800	TOSHIBA EL	790	800
DAEWANG	2740	2800	TOTO	2530	2530
DAEWANG	2740	2800	TOYO KKOGY	472	472
DAEWANG	2740	2800	TOYOTA MOT	2360	2430
DAEWANG	2740	2800	YAMAHA	1290	1290
DAEWANG	2740	2800	YAMATACHI	2140	2140
DAEWANG	2740	2800	YAMAMOUCHI	4390	4470
DAEWANG	2740	2800	YAMAZAKI	1580	1600

Tokyo Stock Market Report

TOKYO STOCKS CLOSE LOWER IN MODEST TRADE
 TOKYO, APRIL 18. REUTER - SHARE PRICES CLOSED SHARPLY
 LOWER IN MODERATE TRADE DUE TO WORRY AS TO WHETHER WALL STREET
 CAN GET BACK ON ITS FEET AFTER PLUNGING 101 POINTS LAST
 THURSDAY, BROKERS SAID.
 "IN ORDER FOR THE NIKKEI TO MAINTAIN LEVELS ABOVE 27,000,
 NEW YORK WAS TO STAY AROUND OR ABOVE 2,000," SAID DEPUTY
 GENERAL MANAGER TADAOKI UEHARA OF WAKO SECURITIES.
 THE NIKKEI INDEX SANK 222.12 POINTS, OR 0.83 PCT, TO
 26,671.45. IT FELL 217.78 POINTS ON FRIDAY. FALLS LED RISES
 FIVE TO FOUR IN TURNOVER OF 550 MLN SHARES AGAINST ONE
 BILLION, THE LOWEST FULL DAY VOLUME SINCE FEBRUARY 9.
 SECURITIES HOUSE, PHARMACEUTICAL, BANK, ELECTRICAL,
 AIRLINE, REAL ESTATE, PRECISION INSTRUMENT, AUTO,
 GLASS/CEMENT, CREDIT/LEASE, WAREHOUSE, GAS AND CONSTRUCTION
 ISSUES LED THE DECLINE.
 ONLY RUBBER SHARES ADVANCED.
 THE MARKET HERE IS STILL FEELING THE REPERCUSSIONS OF THE
 DIZZYLING DROP ON WALL STREET LAST WEEK SPURRED BY A LARGER-
 THAN-EXPECTED U.S. FEBRUARY TRADE DEFICIT, BROKERS SAID.
 THE 13.83 BILLION DLR SHORTFALL WAS HIGHER THAN GENERAL
 ESTIMATES RANGING FROM 11 TO 11.5 BILLION, AND THIS SENT WALL
 STREET AND THE DOLLAR PLUNGING ON THURSDAY.
 WALL STREET'S SLIGHT REBOUND ON FRIDAY DID PROVIDE SOME
 RELIEF, BUT THE EIGHT-POINT GAIN WAS NOT CONVINCING ENOUGH TO
 ENCOURAGE MANY INVESTORS TO BUY, BROKERS SAID.
 "WALL STREET'S REBOUND CAME BACK ONLY A BIT ON FRIDAY," SAID A FUND
 MANAGER AT A MAJOR JAPANESE BANK. "WHILE THE ECONOMIC
 FUNDAMENTALS WERE ARE GOOD, IF NEW YORK SHOULD FALL BELOW
 1,950, THERE COULD BE A PROBLEM."
 "THERE IS NO BUYING COMING IN FROM INSTITUTIONAL
 INVESTORS," SAID WAKO'S UEHARA. "THEY WANT TO WAIT TO SEE NOW
 WALL STREET PERFORMS."

Hong Kong Market Report

HONG KONG, APRIL 18, REUTER - SHARE PRICES CLOSED SHARPLY
WEAKER ON HOUSING SELLING PRESSURE IN THE AFTERNOON IN
SYMPATHY WITH THE WEAKNESS IN TOKYO, BROKERS SAID.
THE HANG SENG INDEX FELL 66.99 POINTS OR 1.8 PCT TO END AT
THE DAY'S LOW OF 2,551.96, AFTER RISING 22 POINTS IN EARLY
TRADING. THE HONG KONG INDEX LOST 30.61 TO 1,677.43. TURNOVER
WAS 1.09 BILLION M.K. DLRS AGAINST 1.6 BILLION LAST Friday.
INVESTORS BECAME ANXIOUS IN THE AFTERNOON WHEN TOKYO FELL
SHARPLY TO A RECORD LOW. A HOUSE DEALER, "SENTIMENT WAS FURTHER
UNDERMINED BY AGGRESSIVE SELLING OF HANG SENG INDEX FUTURES BY
A MAJOR U.K. HOUSE."

PHILIPPINES MAKATI

COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL SECTOR				BC-A	73.00	75.00	72.00
STOCK	BUY	SELL	OPEN	LC-A	.46	.47	.46
AC-A	9.50	9.60	9.10	LC-B	.68	.69	.67
AHS	4.48	4.50	4.40	PX-A	.38	.39	.37
FER-A	2.46	2.50	2.44	PX-B	.40	.41	.39
GLO	35.00		34.00	OIL SECTOR			
PLDT	166.00	167.00	157.00	BP-A	.015	.016	.015
KPSI-A	1.52	1.60		BP-B	.016	.017	
SNC-A	141.00	142.00	138.00	LRC-A	.0024	.0026	.0026
SNC-B	168.00		160.00	LRC-B	.0026		
MINING SECTOR				OPH		.039	.039
APX-A	.026	.027	.026	OPH-B	.039	.04	.04
APX-B	.026	.028		OV-A	.03	.031	.03
AT-A	22.25	22.50	22.00	OV-B	.031	.032	.031

Makati Stock Market Report

OFFICIAL INFORMATION				
SECTOR	SHARES	VALUE	AVERAGES	CHANGES
COMM.-IND.	931,330	12,412,670	818.39	20.3 UP
MINING	34,935,000	7,735,550	4,879.02	24.25 DN
OIL	41,950,000	1,151,010	5.514	0.128 UP
TOTAL	77,816,330	21,299,230	773.52	12.03 UP

PHILIPPINES MANIA

COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL SECTOR						
STOCK	BUY	SELL	OPEN	8C-A	72.50	75.00 72.50
SHC-A	141.00	142.00	138.00	BC-B	73.50	80.00
SHC-B	166.00	167.00	159.00	LC-A	.47	.48 .46
SD-TYRE	29.00	30.50		LC-B	.48	.49 .47
PLDT	165.00	166.00	158.00	ZIP	.01	.011 .011
ANCSOR	4.45	4.50	4.40	OIL SECTOR		
GLA	9.50	9.60	9.30	STOCK	BUY	SELL
AQO	34.50	35.00	34.50	BP-A	.015	.016 .016
PER-A	2.46		2.46	BP-B	.016	.017 .016
PER-B	2.48	2.50	2.50	LRC-A	.0024	.0028
MINING SECTOR				LRC-B	.0024	.003
STOCK	BUY	SELL	OPEN	OPN-A	.038	.039 .039
APX-A	.026	.027	.026	OPN-B	.039	.04 .039
APX-B	.027	.028	.027	OV-A	.029	.031
AT-A	22.25	22.50	22.00	OV-B	.031	.032 .031
AT-B	23.00	24.00		TA	.022	.023 .023

Manila Stock Market Report

OFFICIAL INFORMATION				
SECTOR	SHARES	VALUES	AVERAGES	CHANGES
C/I	1,000,715	20,345,045	808.53	UP 15.23
MINING	69,328,300	10,405,705	4,269.60	UP 113.21
OILS	87,700,000	2,505,150	5.830	UP .179
TOTAL	158,029,015	33,255,900	754.89	UP 18.75

SINGAPORE

NAME	LAST	PR	CL	GUINNESS	258	263	LION CORP	159	159
				GULA			M UTD HHT	62	62
AJINOMOTO	285	285	N I LND		118	118	N SHITA	510	510
ALEXANDRA	150	150	N TAI PAN		50	49.5	N HATA	60	60
AMAL IND	112	-----	RARIHAW		96	96.5	WAC LEM	186	186
AMC NLGDS	160	160	RAP PAR		276	276	MALEY IND	380	380
AMCOL	124	127	HEKZA		105	32	KCB NLGDS	82	81.5
BARA TOS	149	149	HTL NHTL		32	109	MC NLGDS	71	71
C & C	198	198	WML MSTA		560	560	MEHAG	47	47
CARLSBERG	440	430	HTL NEGAR		270	260	METAL BOX	400	400
COLD STOR	576	372	HTL PROPS	86.5	87		METRO	565	575
DADAPI	87	87	HTL ROYAL		105	106	MULPAINO	25	25
DUMPLIND	490	490	HUME IND		166	166	MULPALTID	40	40
DYNAFOP	87	88	HWA HONG		87	88	MURATAO		
DYNOBABY	442	448	IMATEX	20.5	20.5		NAT IRON	314	316
ESSORO ORD	388	388	INTRACO	200	201		NATL TIME	705	695
EU YAN S	193	193	ISETAN	48	48		NOL LTD	128	130
EVERPEACE	-----	-----	J CEMENT	58	57				
F A C B	60	60	J CENG	213	212		OLE	362	364
F A C ASSET	71	71	J ENT	94	94		PALMCO	48	48
F E SNIP	192	190	K G NLGDS	118			ROBINSON	205	205
F&N ORD	810	810	K KELLAS	178			S PRESS	740	745
FEB CABLE	-----	-----	K L IND	31			S SNIP	220	222
FED FOUN	560	560	KAMUNTING	100			SATERAS	45	47.5
G KENT	72	72	KE SANG	120			SEAL INC	89	89
G TOWN	250	250	KENTUCKY	214	217		SEAVIEW	168	168
GENCO CORP	67	66	KEPPEL	197	198		SHELL ORD	500	505
GENTING	408	412	KG FLOUR	225	225		SIA	1100	1100
GOOD COIN	192	195	KIAN HUI	258	258		SIN HENG	270	270
GOODWOOD	1050	1050	KINGS JTL	130	133		SOUTH (M)	84	84
GRAND CHE	96.5	95	KUMP EMAS	81	87.5		SSANGYONG	86	87
GS1	115	115	K M GRP	84	80.5		TSANMARC	344	348

Singapore Stock Market Report

SINGAPORE STOCKS CLOSE MARGINALLY LOWER
SINGAPORE, APRIL 18. REUTER - THE STOCK MARKET CLOSED MARGINALLY LOWER ON LACK OF FOLLOW-THROUGH BUYING SUPPORT AND SPORADIC PROFIT-TAKING IN LETHARGIC TRADING. DEALERS SAID THE STOCKS WERE STEADIER INITIALLY FOLLOWING A MILD RALLY. WALL STREET LAST FRIDAY BUT SUCCEMBED TO PROFIT-TAKING IN THE AFTERNOON WITH A LOWER TOKYO STOCK MARKET OPENING SENTIMENT. MALAYSIAN COUNTERS BORE THE BRUNT OF SELLING BUT PRICE CHANGES WERE MARGINAL.
- INSTITUTIONAL INVESTORS GENERALLY REMAINED AT THE SIDELINES, UNWILLING TO TAKE NEW POSITIONS DUE TO LACK OF DIRECTION AMID UNCERTAINTY OVER THE U.S. DOLLAR'S NEAR-TERM TREND.

India, France agree to expand trade ties

NEW DELHI, April 18: India and France have agreed in principle to increase the two-way trade to French franc 12 billion by 1990. The total volume of trade between the two countries reached FF8.53 billion in 1986.

However, in 1987, it declined marginally. The Indian side has expressed its concern at the growing deficit of trade with France. Both sides have agreed that restoring the balance remains an important task and efforts be made towards this end.

Indian industry through inflow of investment and high technology the French side led by Roger Cbalvon-Demersay, chairman, Franco-Indian committee of CNPF, expressed willingness to transfer technology on mutually advantageous basis.

The signing of industrial collaborations and technology transfer agreements will help Indian manufacturers to improve their production conditions in order to fulfil the needs of

Rise

A steep rise in imports from France and relatively slower growth of Indian exports to France resulted in huge trade deficit for India.

In 1986, the trade deficit reached a peak of FF4682 million. In fact, the trade deficit increased nearly three-fold in rupee terms.

In order to bridge the trade gap, the fifth session of the Indo-French Joint Business Council held recently in Paris, France, noted that positive French support to increase market access to the European Economic Community under the GSP specifically in products of interest to India namely hand knotted carpets, blue cured virginia tobacco, marine products, readymade garments and manufactured leather products were measures needed to be under-

the international demand, it was noted.

Need

The two sides have identified the following areas of joint collaborations: oil exploration, electroic and data-processing, petrochemicals, telecommunications, food processing machinery, opthalmic glass, equipment for energy conservation, special steel production, electrical construction, measuring instruments, manufacture of fashion garments for ladies, viral disease vaccine, fly wheel ring gears, fuel injection equipment, oozles, air pollution control equipment, dental x-ray equipment and alternative energy systems.

The Indian side stressed the need for French equity participation in joint industrial collaborations. The French side expressed its wish to help India in

When the Indian side at the JBC led by Rohit C. Mehta, the then vice-president, FICCI (now president), suggested initiation of bilateral trade promotion programmes with the objective of developing Indian products to suit the French market and other members of the community and extension of the scope of counter-trade obligations to the area of investment and establishment of joint ventures in India mainly in areas which may help generate exports.

Decision

Both sides welcomed the French government's decision to organise a buyers mission to India with a view to exploring the possibilities of importing items such as leather products, carpets, engineering products, chemicals and computer hardware and software.

To view of the new initiatives having opened up possibilities of technology upgradation of

Khalifa Al Muheiry, Adic's acting director-general, said the company's operating income rose by 28 per cent to \$16.20 million in the same year.

He said the company's assets stood at \$943 million at the end of last year, compared with 1.03 billion in 1986.

Al Muheiry pointed out that the company had been able to broaden its base and could now provide a wide range of financial services.

WASHINGTON April 18

(UPI)—A poll found Americans want foreign business restricted in the United States amid deep fears the nation has slipped dangerously in the world market, US News and World Report magazine said yesterday.

Fifty-seven per cent of some 1,000 responding objected to foreign companies building plants in America, with 49 per cent objecting even if it creates more jobs, the March 30-31 Roper poll found.

Americans showed little faith in the US economy. While 45 per cent said the outlook is "slipping dangerously but can still turn it around if we act decisively," only 8 per cent agreed that America is "No. 1 and will remain the strongest, most dynamic economy in the world," the magazine said.

Bright

Furthermore, only 17 per cent of those polled thought the US economic outlook for the next five years is "bright," and 31 per cent considered it "gloomy." The majority, 59 per cent, said the outlook is "just so-so."

Most people, 70 per cent, blamed the troubled US position in the world market on the government, saying that "American government is not well run."

US workers drew the least criticism but still 57 per cent said US labour is too highly priced. Another 69 per cent said America had problems competing with other countries because other nations such as in Asia are "more disciplined."

The strongest objection came to foreign purchase of US companies and real estate — 84 per cent said it is a bad idea. Also, 78 per cent said US restrictions should be placed on foreigners buying real estate.

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Business emigration to Australia

Banker unveils new regulations

By Keith Wells

AT an exclusive press conference yesterday, David Johns of National Australia Bank told the Arab Times about the new regulations for people wishing to emigrate to Australia under the Business Migration Plan.

The Australian Government has recently placed greater emphasis on this form of emigration and is in the process of appointing private companies as accredited agents who will be able to handle applications directly. As the largest bank in Australia, the National Australia Bank will be appointed as an accredited agent in a few weeks time.

Johns is the Business Migration Manager of the National Australia Bank and he explained the scheme to the Arab Times. From the Australian government's point of view, the idea is to attract successful business people and entrepreneurs to settle permanently and contribute their expertise and capital to the country's benefit.

Any business that will create jobs, introduce new or improved technology, stimulate exports or replace current imports, will be considered for the scheme.

Applicants must show that they have a minimum investment of 500,000 Australian dollars, equivalent to about US\$350,000, not including settlement costs, such as buying a house and so on.

Requirements

Applicants should also be able to show that they have a successful business background, the skills and capital necessary to succeed as well as the intention to settle permanently in Australia.

Of course, applicants must show that they genuinely intend to set up a business over there and demonstrate a realistic plan of action concerning settlement arrangements.



David Johns

If business migrants satisfy these requirements, the Business Migration Scheme can provide a quicker method of gaining entry to Australia than other methods of emigrating.

Once the businessman has been accepted under the scheme, he also gets a three-year multiple re-entry visa to enable him to go in and out of the country as often as is necessary to transfer, or establish, his business there.

After three years, provided he has spent a total period of two years actually residing in the country, then he will be offered an Australian passport. You don't even have to give up your previous passport since Australia allows its citizens to hold dual nationality.

Stimulate

In the past two decades, Australia has become a far more multi-racial society than ever before. For example, there are approximately quarter of a million Australians of Arab descent in Sydney alone.

The capital has six or seven Arabic newspapers as well as schools, restaurants and even daily radio programmes.

Currently the government is trying to attract migrants from Asia as a whole, Indians, Pakistanis, Arabs and so on, are all welcome if they can fulfil the basic requirements.

Australia makes no secret of the fact that it is hoping to attract an elite group of businessmen who will help to stimulate the Australian economy. In return, successful applicants will be able to enjoy the free and open lifestyle, a marvellous climate and commercial opportunities that simply do not exist in more rigidly traditional countries.

The cost of living is very cheap in Australia, house prices start at below 75,000 US dollars for a middle class suburban home.

If you want to know more about the scheme, David Johns will be at the Hilton until lunchtime on Wednesday. After that, you can call Mr. S. Abu Lutfallah on 2448641 for further information.

Sterling strengthens

Dollar mixed in nervous trading, gold rises

LONDON, April 18, (Agencies): The US dollar was mixed in early European trading today amid fears of Central Bank intervention if the American currency moves lower. Gold prices were slightly higher.

Market sentiment remains extremely bearish toward the dollar because of disappointment over the widened February trade deficit, dealers said.

Traders "are not touching the dollar, afraid that the central banks might step in," said one Rome dealer. "The dollar is only moving as a result of cross trading."

Depressed

Traders noted that banks intervened heavily in support of the US currency after the trade figures were released last week.

The dollar, earlier depressed by bad US trade figures announced last Thursday, firmed on the reports that an Iranian warship attacked an oil platform in the US operated Mubarak oilfield in the Gulf.

"It's the news about Iran which is causing some short-covering," a dealer in Frankfurt said, as the dollar touched European highs of 1.6640 West German marks and 124.55 Japanese yen after closing in Tokyo at 1.6565 and 123.78.

The pound sterling, a "petrocurrency" because of British North Sea oil, also attracted investors and rose to touch 3.15 marks, up on a 3.135 Friday close. It also rose above \$1.89.

Speculation

Its strength prompted speculation that Britain might have to cut interest rates again to make sterling less attractive to international investors — or see it rise to levels that damage exports. The possibility of cheaper borrowing helped fuel a brisk rally on the London stock market, dealers said.

The FTSE index of 100 British bluechip stocks began at 1,794.6, up 16 from Friday's close, and touched 1,800 later, as the market shrugged off a decline in

Tokyo and took heart from the way Wall Street stabilised at the end of last week after its 101-point Thursday nosedive.

Oil shares were firm on news of the hostilities in the Gulf.

A cargo of North Sea crude oil traded in Europe at \$17.38 a barrel for June loading, up nearly 40 cents from Friday.

Tokyo's Nikkei share average had ended down 222.12 points, or 0.83 per cent, at 26,671.45 because of worries that Wall Street might be headed for further volatility, following the plunge it made last Thursday on news of a widened US trade deficit for February.

Tadaaki Uehara, deputy general manager of Wako Securities in Tokyo, noted that Wall Street's Dow Jones industrial average ended last week only just above 2,000 points, and said: "In order for the Nikkei to maintain levels above 27,000, New York has to stay around or above 2,000."

While the dollar firmed on the

news from the Gulf, dealers said there was underlying "bearishness" about its longer term prospect because of the stubbornly high US trade deficit.

Some Tokyo dealers believed the Bank of Japan had bought dollars today, renewing the intervention by central banks seen last week when news of the US February deficit of \$13.83 billion sent the dollar skidding.

"Everyone wants to push the dollar down, but after massive Central Bank intervention on Thursday and Friday, no one is keen to make the start," one dealer in Tokyo said.

Weaker

Worries about a weaker dollar and the way it would pinch export earnings were cited by Frankfurt brokers when German shares began the week lower in very thin trading. The Paris Bourse 30-share indicator also began slightly lower.

Other dollar rates at midmorning, compared with late Friday's rates:

— 1.6625 West German marks, up from 1.6605

— 1.3750 Swiss francs, up from 1.3720

— 5.6455 French francs, up from 5.6325

— 1.8585 Dutch guilders, down from 1.8630

— 1.2310 Italian lire, down from 1.2320

— 1.2305 Canadian dollars, down from 1.2335

Higher

Gold opened in London at a bid price of \$456.75 a troy ounce and at mid-morning, the city's five major bullion dealers fixed a recommended price of \$457.55. Both were higher than Friday's late bid of \$456.25.

In Zurich, the bid price was \$457.00, up from \$455.50 late Friday.

Earlier, in Hong Kong, gold rose \$2.03 to close at a bid \$457.98.

Silver was quoted in London today at a bid price of \$6.513 a troy ounce, up from Friday's \$6.49.

India world's largest supplier of precious stones

NEW DELHI, April 18, (Kuna): India has emerged the world's largest supplier of precious stones.

Till two years ago, India was handling annually 30 million carats (five grams make a carat), but last year about 48 million carats were shipped out of the country, says an association of diamond dealers.

It is expected that India will export diamonds and other precious stones worth Rs. 20,000 million during the current financial year.

The most noted buyer of Indian diamonds is Japan. The continuous appreciation of the Japanese yen is believed to have triggered demand for diamonds. Since Japan prefers large sized stones, Indian dealers and craftsmen have adapted themselves to the new demand. Japan accounted of 20 per cent of India exports.

Consistent

Japan has been consistent buyers since 1986. The United States and West Germany are other major buyers of the Indian diamonds.

There is nothing India cannot produce in diamonds, said a prominent dealer adding that some of the Non-Resident Indians businessmen have fanned out to Israel, the traditional diamond capital of the world.

The demand for large sized diamonds went down with the recession and now there is a revival. Israel is now losing ground to India.

According to Diamonds Exports Association the large quantity of diamonds are exported from Bombay. The traditional supremacy of trade in the diamonds trade has been challenged by India.

The cutting and polishing outfits in various areas of the country have been activated by the surge of international demand for diamonds. Some half a million artisans are engaged countrywide in diamond cutting and polishing business.

Concurrently with growing exports, diamond dealers are importing sophisticated machinery. Several processing units have been installed. Some of the latest based cutting machines have also been imported.

It helped to cut the diamond against grains and with the grains without causing damage to the stone.

The government policy has also helped sustain diamond business.

UN calls for action on debt relief

UNITED NATIONS, April 18, (Opecna): A UN committee has called for immediate action to reduce the international debt of severely affected developing countries, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa and Latin America.

Schemes

In a special statement, the Committee for Development Planning, a group of independent economic advisers to the world body, said it would not be possible for it to contemplate the prospects for sustained longer-term development in debt-distressed countries without first resolving their current debt problems.

The committee warned against excessively generalised

schemes, but stated that a realistic assessment of the situation of debt-distressed countries had led it to the conclusion that many of them were insolvent and could not in the foreseeable future service their debts under any circumstances. Others might be able to continue to pay interest on their debt at the cost of cutting further living standards, damaging the natural resource base and postponing investments needed for future growth. But this would not be a viable strategy.

Debt

The committee indicated that indebted developing countries faced three kinds of creditors: official ones whose claims consisted largely of bilateral loans

and guaranteed export credits, and international financial institutions, notably, the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Bank and regional development banks.

The first type of debt was rescheduled in the Paris Club where payments were deferred but at unchanged interest rates, states the committee. This built up "snowballing debts", while the capacity to service them often declined.

Private creditors had already made significant provisions against losses on their loans, the committee noted. The debts of a number of Latin American and other countries to commercial banks were already valued at deep discounts.

US, Europe far apart on farm subsidies

VANCOUVER, British Columbia, April 18, (AP): Trade ministers of countries responsible for two-thirds of the world's commerce made little progress on farm subsidies and Japanese trade barriers at a weekend meeting on new global trading rules.

Envoys from the United States, Japan, Canada and the 12-nation European Economic Community reported some agreement in principle, but more disagreement during their secluded retreat in western Canada.

Objective

"Progress in this particular session has certainly not been significant," US Trade Representative Clayton Yeutter said on differences concerning the billions of dollars spent subsidising the world's farmers to produce exports no one wants to buy.

Yeutter repeated the US government's call for an end of farm subsidies by the year 2000 and an agreement by December establishing a framework for phasing them out.

"Our friends in Europe consider that an unrealistic objective," Yeutter told yesterday's news conference. "If 12 years is too soon, then let's look at 14 years. But let's not conclude it's impossible to rid the world of these onerous practices."

Proposals

He said EEC Trade Commissioner Willy De Clercq negotiated cautiously on the issue during the quadrilateral trade meeting on Quadra Island, 100 miles (160 kilometres) northwest of Vancouver.

At a news conference, however, De Clercq said the EEC had taken what he called a "courageous" decision to begin

curbing farm production and spending.

The EEC commissioner termed US proposals unreasonable and accused the Americans of talking free trade while practicing the opposite.

"Both of us spend about \$30 billion (a year) to support farming," De Clercq said. "There are about 2.5 to 3 million farmers in the United States and 12 million in the European community. It's not difficult to draw the conclusion which farmers are more supported."

He said under one US programme, nearly 12 million tons of subsidised wheat have been sold to the Soviet Union in the past year.

De Clercq said any agreement on agriculture must be part of a "global package" under the 95-nation General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, which is being

Venezuelan oil minister in Muscat

MUSCAT, April 18, (Opecna): Venezuelan Minister of Energy and Mines Arturo Hernandez Grisanti arrived here yesterday on a two-day official visit to the sultanate.

In a statement after his arrival, the Venezuelan minister said he was carrying a message to Sultan Qaboos Bin Said from the President of Venezuela.

He said his visit comes as part of a tour of a number of non-Opec countries who would take part in the forthcoming meeting of Opec member states.

Hernandez praised the sultanate's stand in support of Opec efforts to stabilise oil prices.

Gulf Bank weekly market review

KD rates mostly steady

Kuwaiti dinar

Based on opening middle market FX rates, the KD exchange rate was slightly easier against the US dollar ending the week at 274.83 fils compared with its week before last closing of 273.83 fils. Against the pound sterling, the KD was higher ending at 506.46 fils compared with its week before last closing of 513.09 fils. The KD was higher against the DM ending the week at 162.53 fils.

The KD ended the week slightly higher against the Sfr closing at 196.10 compared with its week before last closing at 197.81 fils. As against the Jordanian dinar the KD was unchanged, ending the week at 799.27 fils compared with its week before last closing of 799.15 fils. The KD was mostly unchanged against the GCC currencies.

US dollar

The US dollar was mostly well-bid early in the week as the market awaited the outcome of the Wednesday, April 13, G-7 meeting in Washington and the Feb US trade deficit meeting, on Thursday April 14. The meeting of G-7 reiterated earlier accords and didn't bring anything new.

While the larger-than-expected US February trade deficit at \$13.83 billion from \$12.44 billion in January depressed the US dollar as market consensus settled on \$10-11 billion deficit thus shattering hopes of a fast adjustment in existing global external imbalances. Intervention of central banks to support the dollar halted from further decline.

Negative dollar sentiment further deepened on the release of a larger-than-expected 0.6 per cent rise in the March US producer price index after falling by 0.2 per cent in February on rises mainly in food and energy prices. US industrial production rose by 0.1 per cent in March after being unchanged in February and rising by 0.4 per cent in January with gains in business equipment and motor vehicle assemblies weakened by lower construction supplies and other consumer goods.

Japanese yen

The yen remained the main beneficiary of further dollar declines. The Japanese yen opened the week slightly easier against the US dollar at 126.35/45 but ended the week firmer at 123.90/90 yen compared to its week before last closing at 125.72/82 yen. There had been some market speculation that the G-7 in their meeting might agree to support a 125 yen base for the dollar.

However the G-7 statement which reaffirmed their December 22 statement on exchange rate stability was largely discounted. Japan's March unadjusted trade surplus fell to \$7.46 billion from \$8.05 billion a year earlier

while in February the surplus was \$5.24 billion.

The unadjusted trade surplus with the US fell in March to \$3.40 billion from \$3.79 billion a year earlier. Japan has been able to trim its trade surplus with the US since the beginning of 1988 by 9.6 per cent and 14.4 per cent in February.

Deutsche mark

The mark opened the week easier against the US dollar at 1.6825/35 and reached the lows of 1.6935/45 near the 1.70 important level but rebound to strengthen on the closing of the week at 1.6630/30 marks on the back of a declining dollar on higher-than-expected US February trade deficit, compared to its week before last closing of 1.6743/53 marks.

The mark remained easier against the sterling ending the week at 3.133/136 marks per sterling with 3.15 mark level yet to be breached. As against the yen the mark was easier at 1.3405/25 marks per 100.

W. German Finance Minister Stolltenberg upwardly revised the official West German growth forecast for 1988 predicting more than 2 per cent real growth after 1.5-2.0 per cent previously forecast as he cited stronger first quarter growth in private consumption and orders for manufacturing goods (orders rose by +2.8 per cent in January and +1.8 per cent in February) aided by tax cuts of almost 14 billion marks introduced at the start of 1988.

Pound sterling

After weakening earlier in the week in a delayed reaction to the previous week's base lending rate cut by 1/2 per cent to 8 per cent, the pound regained its strength on the weaker dollar, which came under pressure from the unexpectedly high US February trade deficit.

The pound opened the week at \$1.8590/00 and closed higher against the dollar at \$1.8885/95, above its week before last closing of \$1.8745/55.

A string of economic indicators were released last week including the following UK producer price index which rose by 0.5 per cent in March to give a year-on-year gain of 4.1 per cent after a revised 0.4 per cent rise in February which gave a 4.0 per cent annual rate. While the retail price index rose 0.4 per cent in March to give an annual rate of increase of 3.5 per cent after a 0.4 per cent rise in February which showed annual inflation at 3.3 per cent. UK unemployment fell to 9.0 per cent in March from 9.1 per cent in February. UK industrial output was down a sharp 2.6 per cent in February after falling a revised 0.3 per cent in January while manufacturing output fell 3.2 per cent in February after rising a revised 0.6 per cent in January.

French franc

The French franc opened the

week against the US dollar at Ffr. 5.7020/50 and closed higher at Ffr. 5.6380/10, above its week before last closing of Ffr. 5.6790/00. French trade deficit widened to \$15.2 billion from \$15.2 billion in February from a 600 m. francs deficit in January, contradicting the trend of the last six months.

The dramatic deterioration in the trade deficit in February was partly attributed to a strong surge in industrial investments, which has sucked in imports of machinery and electronic equipment.

Swiss franc

The Swiss franc opened the week against the US dollar at Sfr. 1.3935/45 and closed higher at Sfr. 1.3725/35, above its week before last closing of Sfr. 1.3833/43.

Oil prices

Oil prices in the world markets increased last week. Spot prices for North Sea Brent crude were between the \$15.50-16.80 range compared with the \$15.35-15.65 range recorded the week before last. Prices for May cargoes were higher too, ranging between \$15.55-16.90 compared with the \$15.45-15.60 range recorded the week before last.

This improvement in oil prices is attributed to encouraging signs that some non-Opec oil exporting countries have responded favourably to Opec's Price Monitoring Committee's call for a joint meeting to be held in Vienna at the end of next week to discuss measures aiming at stabilising oil prices.

Precious metals

Gold

Gold bullion prices opened the week at \$449/49.50 and closed higher at \$456/456.50, showing a gain of \$5.75 over the previous week's closing of \$450.75. Gold failed to make further ground on the dollar's current weakness, and while breaking resistance at \$445, operators are now looking for a breach of \$458 to bring investors to the market.

Silver

Silver generally monitored gold's fluctuations. Silver bullion prices opened the week at \$6.65/6.67 and closed higher at \$6.48/6.50, showing a slight gain of 2 cents over the previous week's closing of \$6.46/6.48.

World Stock Markets

After moving higher earlier in the week on the strengthening dollar and bond markets, stock prices fell later on the stronger-than-expected gain in March retail sales, as the report revived fears of an overheating economy and on the US trade report which showed an increase in the US trade deficit in March. Developments which caught many investors by surprise and helped cause a 101.46 point drop in stock prices on Thursday 14, before recovering later.



Money brokers respond to their clients in brisk trading in Tokyo yesterday. Bank of Japan is believed to have intervened in the market and bought a small amount of dollars at around 123.70/80 through brokers, some dealers said. But this was not confirmed. (Reuters wirephoto)

GOVERNMENT TENDERS

Tender No. MCI/PT-87/88
Tender's Internal No. 828/88
Concerned party: National Council for Culture, Arts & Literature
Requirements: Furnishing of State Central Library Branch in Surra
Relevant fee: KD 30/-
Initial guarantee: 5% of offer's value
Closing date: 12.00 noon, Tuesday, 31.5.1988

Qualified Tenderers:
1. For Qualified tenderers, please refer the above tender

Tender No. M/1988/13
Tender's Internal No. 823/88
Concerned party: Kuwait Oil Company

Requirements: Installation of vessel to remove liquids from the gas in gathering centres Nos. 15 and 25
Relevant fee: KD 20/-
Initial guarantee: 2-1/2 % of offer's value
Closing date: 12 noon, Sunday 22.5.88

Qualified Tenderers:
1. Al-Meer Technical Services Co.
2. Consolidated Contractors Co.
3. Gulf Electrical Engineering Co.
4. High Precision Installation & Maintenance Co.
5. Kuwait Controls Co.

6. Safran & Partners Electrical & Mechanical Contg. Co.
7. Kuwait Shipbuilding & Repairing Co.
A pre-tender meeting shall be held on 24.4.88 at 9 a.m. in Al-Ahmedi Community Centre to visit the site and discuss the tender conditions.
A.P. 18

Tender No. TM/2-88
Tender's Internal No. 819/88
Concerned party: Kuwait National Petroleum Co.
Requirements: Construction, completion & maintenance of two new fuel filling stations in Jahra
Relevant fee: KD 50/-
Initial guarantee: KD 25000/-
Closing date: 12 noon Tuesday 31.5.88

This tender is open for contractors classified in 2nd category of civil works

A pre-tender shall be held on Sunday 1.5.88 at 10 a.m. in the Engineering Section Offices — Central Sabhan, Stores of Local Marketing Dept. to answer the queries.
N.B.: The company representative shall not be allowed to attend the preliminary pre-tender meeting if the bidder fails to notify the KNPC with

the names and designations of his nominees according to the safety and security conditions applied in the refinery at least two days prior to the date mentioned.

Bidders offers shall not be considered if he fails to attend the above mentioned preliminary obligatory meeting.
Tender No. M/1988/14
Tender's Internal No. 825/88
Concerned party: Kuwait Oil Company
Requirements: Modifying of high pressure gas burning equipment in gathering centres Nos. 15 and 25 at Northern Kuwait
Relevant fee: KD 30/-
Initial guarantee: 2-1/2 % of offer's value
Closing date: 12 noon Sunday, 22.5.88

1. Abdul Aziz Yousuf Al-Jassa & Partners Co.
2. Al Adasani Contg. Est.
3. Ahmed Ghoulum Rizzi Ashiknani Est.

4. Al Eani Constructions & Trdg.

5. Al Al Ghanim Est.
6. Al Injaz Contg. Co.
7. Al Maqwa Trdg. & Contg. Co.
8. Al Mulla & Al-Hussaini Well Digging, Trdg. & Maintenance Co.
9. Al Sawan Gen. Trdg. & Electrical Contg. Co.

10. Al Yaqzha Trdg. & Electrical Mechanical Contg. Est.
11. Burqan Contg. Co.
12. Consolidated Contractors Co.
13. Al Duaij Engineering Co.
14. El Hoss Engineering & Contg. Co.
15. Hmoud Al Khada Est.
16. Al Dar Trdg. & Contg. Co.
17. Khalifa Duaij Al Dabooos, Bros. & Partners Co. Ltd.
18. Khalifa Al Fulaj Contg. & Gen. Trdg. Est.

19. Kuwaiti Kurnec Co. Ltd.
20. Kremenco.

21. Kuwait Shipbuilding & Repairing Co.
22. Mechanical & Industrial Services Co.
23. Mechanical Engineering &

Contg. Co.
24. Misari Al Khaleel & Partners Inter. Co.
25. Arabian Peninsula Sun Gen. Trdg. Est.

26. Kuwait Arab Works Co.
27. Kuwait Labs Building & Contg. Co.
28. National Electrical & Mechanical Works Co.
A pre-tender meeting shall be held on 23.4.88 at 9 a.m. in Ahmadi Community Centre to visit the site and discuss the tender conditions.
Tender's Internal No. 829/88
Concerned party: Kuwait National Petroleum Co.

Requirements: Rent contract of heavy duty transport vehicles & different transport equipment.
Relevant fee: KD 40/-
Initial guarantee: KD 25000/-
Closing date: 12.00 noon, Sunday, 29.5.88

Qualified Tenderers:
1. Abdul Mohsen Al Khurafi
2. Consolidated Contractors Co. (Conco)

3. Nayef Hamad Al Dabooos & Sons Co.
4. Khalifa Duaij Al Dabooos & Bros. Co.
5. Inter. Contractors Group
6. Al Bdah & Maseri Trdg. & Contg. Co.
7. Al Adasani Contg. Est.
8. Kremenco

9. Al Al Ghanim Est.
10. Jassem Transport
11. Abdul Aziz Abdulla Al Arfaj & Sons
12. Kuwaiti Prefabricated Buildings Co.
13. Grand Sahara Contg. Co.
14. Mass Engineering & Transport Co.
15. El-Hoss Engineering & Transport Co.
16. Al Dar Trdg. & Contg. Co.
17. Al Al Sayegh Contg. Co.
18. Al Jazeera & Al Qurayzi Transport Co.

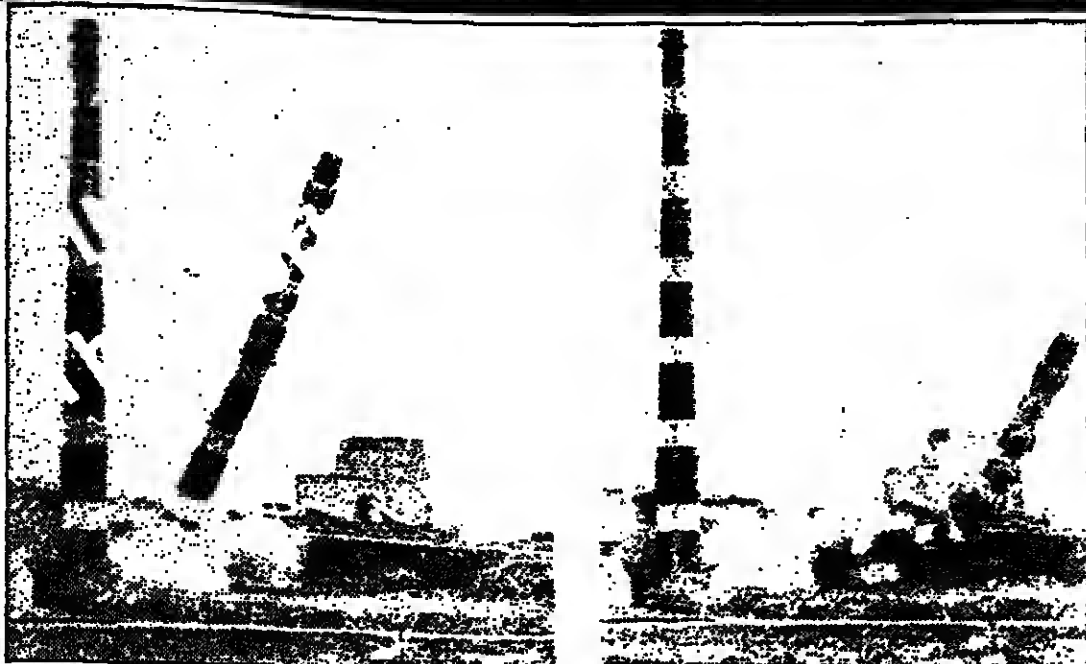
19. Land Transport Co.
20. Nasser Moh'd Al Bdah Trdg. & Gen. Contg. Est.

21. Kuwait & Gulf Link Transport Co.
N.B.: — The company representative shall not be allowed to attend the preliminary pre-tender meeting if the

bidder fails to notify the K.N.P.C. with the names and designations of his nominees according to the safety and security conditions applied in refineries at least two days before the date of the bid meeting.

A pre-tender meeting shall be held on Tuesday 26.4.88 at 9.00 am in the Materials & Contracts Section — Al Ahmadi Port Refinery to visit the site and discuss the tender conditions.
Tender No. M/1988/15
Tender's Internal No. 822/88
Concerned party: Kuwait Oil Company

Requirements: Heightening of protection walls around main oil crude storage tanks in the gathering centres Nos. 16, 17 and 18.
Relevant fee: KD 30/-
Initial guarantee: 2-1/2 % of offer's value
Closing date: 12.00 noon Sunday 22.5.88



SMOKE plumes from this 400-foot chimney as it topples over on Sunday at an unused quarry in Montreal. The companion smokestack tumbled to fall after it was dynamited. (Reuter wirephoto)



PHILIPPINE President Corazon Aquino and Chief of Staff Gen. Renato de Villa review the honour guard on Sunday upon her arrival at the air-force base from an official visit to China and Hong Kong. (Reuter wirephoto)



YEHDY TARAZI, the head of the PLO observer mission in New York for the United Nations is seen in The Hague yesterday talking to a reporter. Tarazi said the PLO would not retaliate for the killing of the top PLO commander in Tunis. (Reuter wirephoto)



WEST GERMAN chef Richard Uwe displays a sugar loaf shaped like France's Eiffel Tower. The dessert took a month to complete and is the star attraction at a festival of French cuisine at a leading hotel in Kuala Lumpur. (Reuter wirephoto)



JEAN MARIE LE PEN, President of the National Front and French presidential candidate, waves to the assembled crowd at a velodrome in Marseille on Sunday during his campaign. (Reuter wirephoto)



A SANDINISTA soldier (centre) talks to a smiling Contra soldier (left) during a meeting between about 60 soldiers from the two warring sides in an isolated area of Nicaragua 85 miles north of Managua. The one-day meeting was organised by Contra and Sandinista field commanders who are observing a 60-day ceasefire while peace talks continue. (Reuter wirephoto)



THE BEST skateboarder in the world, Tony Hawk, of California, flies through the air 15 feet above the ground during a display of his talents in Toronto. The 19-year-old Californian makes a very good living riding his skateboard around the world. (Reuter wirephoto)



NEVIL GOULD holds a lump of ice which crashed through the roof of his family cottage (background) in Hildenborough, England on Saturday. The chunk of ice is believed to have fallen from a passing plane. (Reuter wirephoto)



FRENCH Prime Minister Jacques Chirac kisses a young boy in Saran, France, during the French presidential campaign.



A MONKEY tries to take a sip of a soft drink left over by tourists in a temple during the hottest days of the year last week. The monkeys are one of the main attractions for tourists in central Thailand. (Reuter wirephoto)



A MID-AFTERNOON bubble bath is enjoyed by youngsters in the middle of a downtown street in Madrid. Firemen contributed to give the youngsters something else to play with — anti-fire foam was sprayed for kids to wade in. The city celebrated yesterday the yearly event sponsored by local municipal authorities which attracts several hundred thousand youngsters and their families.



ZIMBABWE celebrated its eighth year of independence yesterday with President Mugabe addressing a crowd at the national sports stadium. Seen here are members of the Youth Brigade going through their paces with wooden rifles. Thousands of children took part in the display which also included helicopter and jetfighter fly pasts. (Reuter wirephoto)

ARAB TIMES Classifieds

ACCOMMODATION

Wanted

ABBASIYA or Farwaniya, an independent room for a Goan bachelor to share with an Indian family. Tel. Oliver, 2416600, 9am - 1 pm, 8 - 10 pm.

(AT2-41900-3)

IN Ras Salmiya, for an Indian bachelor. With tele. facilities. Tel. Wilson, 5716042, 6 - 11 pm.

(AT3-41914-3)

Available

IN Salwa (behind Iran shop), House No. 196, Block No. 7, one big room with water, electricity and kitchen, for family/working lady/ bachelors to share with an Indian family. Bus routes 34, 102. Rent KD50. Tel. 561243.

(AT5-41846-6)

KUWAIT City, opp. G.P.O. Al Rabia building, 3rd Floor, Room 32. One room for Goans or Mangaloreans, to share with one man. Rent KD30. Tel. 3263310, 8am - 1 pm.

(AT4-41932-3)

KUWAIT City, Opp. GPO next to Hardees, Mahamod Al Rabia Bldg., Flat 3. A single room on 1st floor for Goan bachelors from 1st May. Tel. L. Pereira, 2441496, 9 am - 12 noon.

(AT2-41890-3)

FARWANIYA, behind UTC. One big room with water and electricity for 2 bachelors, couple, family or working girl. Rent KD60. Tel. 4734559, 8am - 2 pm.

(AT4-41906-3)

IN Salmiya, near Indian School (senior). One room with kitchen and tele. facilities, for two bachelors. Rent KD70, 40 each. Tel. 5640613, 5-8 pm.

(AT3-41917-3)

For Rent

QORTUBA, deluxe apartment, with car parking in a very nice and quiet area. Tel. 4742683, 9 am - 12 noon, 4841144 1 - 5 pm.

(AT2-41903-3)

SALWA, near Kuwait English School, Deluxe, CAC, brand new flat comprising 3 bedrooms, living and dining area, 2 bathrooms and a large fitted kitchen. Rent KD 300 including water and electricity. Tel. 5382783, 5391720.

(AT4-41937-6)

FOR SALE

Cars

PONTIAC Transam 1977, one owner from new, in excellent condition, KD550. Tel. 2642486.

(AT3-41912-3)

Al Khadra Real Estate

(Under British Management) Apartments and villas for rent in various locations throughout Kuwait. Ring Ken Winston, Tel. No. 5758060/5756888 ext. 263 or 5758870.

NISSAN Liberta, 1984 model, hatchback, fully automatic, with sunroof, AC, stereo, in perfect condition. KD250 to owner and KD48 X 18 to company. Tel. 4884490, after 3 pm.

(AT2-41888-3)

MITSUBISHI Colt 1988, A/C, automatic, dark red, 5,500 kms. full insurance for 3 years in very good condition (new car). KD2,600 for the agent, instalments, monthly KD62, nothing for owner. Tel. 5717486, 1 - 5 pm.

(AT2-41904-3)

PONTIAC Sunbird, 1978, AC, automatic, blue, 80,000 kms, registered upto April 1989, in very good condition. KD 225. Tel. Dr. Khalid, 5717098, 9.30 am - 1 pm.

(AT4-41936-2)

NISSAN Liberta 1.8 SGL 83 model, first registered Jan 84, beige colour, four door, sunroof, fully automatic, AC, power steering, 4-speaker stereo, driven by a lady, in excellent condition. KD 750. Tel. 2641896.

(AT4-41922-2)

CHEVROLET Nova, 1977, white, automatic, AC, lady driven, in good condition. KD350. Tel. 5720284, after 3 pm.

(AT4-41938-3)

PONTIAC Bonnaville 1980, automatic, in good condition. KD 575 ono. Tel. 5335848.

(AT4-41864-3)

CAMARO Z28, 1982, black/gold, fully automatic, good condition (new type). KD 1600 ono, cash. Tel. Alex, 4848229, 7.30 am - 4 pm.

(AT2-41901-3)

DATSUN 280ZX 1982, one owner from new, in excellent condition. KD1200. Tel. 2642486.

(AT3-41912-3)

Miscellaneous

HEALTHY indoor plants, child's bicycle and other household items. Tel. 5733787.

(AT3-41909-2)

FURNITURE and household items, at Al Muthanna Complex (opp. Meridian Hotel). Tel. Paul or Sue, 2426118, after 2 pm.

(AT3-41915-3)

'SNIPER' trailer (unused) for 4m (12 foot) boat weight limit 250 kg, KD 75, windsurfer 4m sail, (spare must), KD 75. Tel. 2541603, after 4 pm.

(AT4-41927-3)

SALMIYA Opp. Sultan Center, between electricity office and Iranian grocery shop, spacious 2 bedroom flat with phone 3 piece sofa set and curtains. Tel. 5722338, 8 - 10 am, 4 - 7 pm.

(AT2-41895-3)

CONTENTS of a 1 bedroom flat with phone, individually or complete flat. Also Volkswagen auto with AC, radio. In excellent condition. Lady owner. Tel. 2644169, 4 - 9 pm.

(AT3-41910-2)

CONTENTS of furnished flat for sale including Elephan 7-1/2 octave upright electric piano with loud/soft pedals, KD350 also JVC Hi Fi, KD300. Tel. 3940580 ext 205, any time.

(AT2-41888-3)

Computers

SPECTRAVIDEO Xpress, 3-1/2 inch, disk drive, 2 joysticks, Sony TV/monitor, Arabic & 300 other programmes, books, carrying case. In excellent condition. Tel. Faris, 2412737, after 3 pm.

(AT3-41911-3)

COMMODORE 128, disk drive, data cassette, freeze frame, Koalainter, 2 joysticks, 100 programmes and games, books, and many things. Tel. Sadeq, 2418255 am, 2523455 pm.

(AT1-41801-6)

PETS

PERSIAN kitten, light grey colour. Lovely male with green eyes. Inoculated, with papers, 12 weeks old. KD65. Tel. Hassan Kamel 3943570.

(AT2-41901-3)

CAT, female, black and white. 5 years old, answers to the name 'Minstrel'. Free to good home. Tel. 3940580 Ext 205 any time.

(AT2-41887-3)

SITUATIONS

Wanted

MAID, Sri Lankan, seeks part-time job with accommodation for a husband (driver). Tel. 5637163, 8 am - 12 noon.

(AT4-41926-2)

Vacant

NANNY (maid) required urgently, must have excellent experience with children, speak fluent English and have a transferable visa. Tel. 2530000 ext 415, 9.30 am - 1 pm, 8 - 11 pm.

(AT2-41905-3)

FOR RENT

- * Villas
- * Part Villas
- * Flats * Offices

Excellent condition with 2-3-4 Bedrooms with Dining room, Sealon, Telephone, Garden, Car parking space, Servant's quarters with Central Airconditioning. Contact

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Tel: 2406592, 2406593

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which has the British Royal Warrant and complies with the Certification of Beauty Therapy & Hairdressing Standards.

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Teaching available in all languages other than English.

Al Ramat East
Office No. 1, 3rd Floor, Block 28, Al Ramat East Complex, Tel. 2429911/2429988 From 8 am to 7.30 pm

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On the occasion of changing our interior decoration

Buy any piece of shirts, trousers, ties, T-shirts for KD1,000 only.

Fahd Al Salem St. — Beside Al Muthanna Complex. Tel. 2451377.

FOR RENT

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Al-Montalok Real Estate
Tel: 2418655 2426888

FOR RENT

New spacious villas and floors of villas, deluxe and central A/C, with cupboards in rooms and kitchens. Swimming pool, sports centre, with water and electricity in Salwa and all areas.

Call Tel. 2418969/3, 2435571

WANTED

A young storekeeper male or female, with transferable residence No. 18 and good English.

Contact 5714550, from 10 am to 1 pm, 8 to 10 pm.

FOR RENT

Villas — part of villas and flats, 2-3-4 bedrooms, garden, car park pools & telephone.

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2403388 — 2403399

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Contact Tel: 4748877/4731004. Timings — 8.00 am - 1.00 pm and 4.00 pm - 8.00 pm. Al Mowassim Trdg.

REQUIRED

Central A/C maintenance technicians with 7 years experience. Must have valid transferable residence.

Call Tel. 4844448

MAID required, preferably Goan, for household duties, part-time or full-time. Tel. Mario, 2442773, 10 am - 1.30 pm.

(AT4-41924-2)

COOK (lady) required for a small family. Must be an expert in Kuwaiti Cuisine. Good salary. Tel. Salem Saad, 2466141, 2451391, 5333672.

(AT2-41894-3)

SERVICES

Transport

URGENTLY from Ras Salmiya to Farwaniya (Pakistani School) once at 1 pm. Tel. 5735112.

(AT2-41902-3)

Hatid Ligaya offers free delivery in provinces

Philippines Door to Door Service

Abughosh Int'l. Tel. 4843447 SARAH

REQUIRED from Salwa to Salmiya. Office hours: 9 am - 1 pm, 3.30 pm - 7.30 pm. Tel. Miss Karen, 5724895, 5724459, 10 am - 1 pm.

(AT4-41935-3)

REQUIRED, reliable transport for a child from Hawally to New Indian School, Jabriya. 7.30 am and 12.30 pm. Tel. Manna, 2658943, 4818610, 4834861.

(AT2-41896-3)

WANTED

EXECUTIVE office desk and chair, filing cabinet, steel cupboards and photo-copying machine. Tel. K. Winston 5758870.

(AT3-41916-3)

FOR RENT

Villas, half villas, buildings, and flats with or without swimming pool.

Al Azraq Real Estate
Tel. 2452199, 2452198

FOR RENT

Villas, 1/2 villas, flats, apartments, stores, etc. in all areas of Kuwait.

Messiah Beach Real Estate
Tel. 2401858 2408510

Register for DB III + course now

Read Computers Rehab Complex, Hawalli. Tel. 2688600

TO LET

A fully-furnished villa in Bayan, with three bedrooms, two bathrooms and a basement consisting of two bedrooms and one bathroom. The attic has a laundry room and ironing facility. The villa is centrally air-conditioned. Rent KD 1500 (negotiable). Tel. 2466884/5

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Esau Huseini Al-Yousifi
Medison Service Center
Shawmiah Industrial Area
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Tel. 4835144 (8 lines)
Att: Mr Julio Cardoz

حضانة المثنى
AL-MUTHANNA CITY PLAYGROUP
P.O. Box: 8640 Salmiya, Tel: 2428160

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- Register for Summer-school: July and August.
- Register for the next academic year starting September.

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SALES REPRESENTATIVE sought by a leading Computer Software and Training Company in Kuwait.

Applicants need the following:

- 2-3 years experience in services & product sales
- Sound knowledge of Computers and Programming Languages.
- Transferable Residence.
- Personal Transport.
- Valid Kuwaiti Driving Licence.

APPLY FOR INTERVIEW - Tel: 2450281/2.

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يعلم عن بد. دوات
التدريب على الكمبيوتر

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- * LOTUS 1-2-3 * مقدمة في البرمجة
- * dBASE III PLUS * مقدمة في البرمجة
- * LOTUS 1-2-3 * دورة متقدمة في البرمجة
- * dBASE III PLUS * دورة الكمبيوتر الشاملة
- * دورة البرمجة بلغة BASIC, COBOL
- * إدخال البيانات ومعالجة الكلمات

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SPORTS

Leconte takes first GP crown in 19 months

NICE, France, April 18. (Reuters) Henri Leconte captured his first Grand Prix title in 19 months when he overcame unseeded fellow-Frenchman Jerome Potier 6-2 6-2 in the Nice Open final yesterday.

Third seed Leconte, returning to the Grand Prix circuit for the first time since he was injured by a hand at the Italian indoor tournament in Milan two months ago, was too strong for Potier in all departments.

Leconte, who had beaten top-seeded Soviet Andrei Chesnokov in the semifinals after saving a match-point in the second set, experienced no such problems against Potier, who had performed excellently to get this far from a player ranked 122nd in the world.

"I completely stifled him. He was very tense and he made mistakes," Leconte said after the clash of the two left-handers.

His victory was worth \$23,000 and restored some logical order to a tournament of upsets in which four of the top eight seeds failed to survive the first round.

Leconte's last tournament win dated back to September 1986 when he triumphed over Czechoslovak Miloslav Mecir in the West German Open final in Hamburg.

He broke Potier's service twice in succession to take a 5-1 lead in the first set and hit home his advantage in the second with another break in the opening game.

Potier, who had beaten fourth-seeded American Jimmy Arias in the first round, did not have the armory to trouble Leconte and looked increasingly into error, losing accuracy and mis-hitting shots.

"It was a good match for me today. I didn't play well at the beginning of matches earlier in the tournament. It's good for me, for my confidence," Leconte said.

To the suggestion that such a one-sided win wasn't so good for the spectators, he said with a smile: "I prefer winning like that."

Leconte collected his second title of the afternoon when he partnered fellow-Frenchman Guy Forget to a 4-6 6-3 6-4 victory in the doubles final over Heinz Gunthardt of Switzerland and Diego Nargiso of Italy.

Leconte has enjoyed heartening form since he got over his injury, following up victory in an exhibition tournament in Houston by sharing a French Davis Cup quarter-final win over Australian before rejoining the Grand Prix circuit.

Thorpe starts title quest in fine style

SITTENDORF, Austria, April 18. (Reuters) Former champion David Thorpe of Britain started the quest to regain his 500 cc world motocross crown in dazzling style yesterday.

Thorpe, riding a Honda, was both races in the opening round of this year's championship, staged on a hillside track in the Vienna woods.

Title holder Georges Jobe of Belgium has dropped to the 125 cc category and Thorpe served early notice he is the man they all have to fear in the 500 cc category.

In the first race he beat compatriot Kurt Nicoll, runner-up to Jobe last season, with Italy's Michele Magarotto in third and another Briton, Andy Nicholls, in fourth.

In the second race Thorpe beat Swede Hakan Carlquist for his second win, finishing fourth after colliding with Belgian Dirk Geukens while challenging botly for second place.

WORLD NO. 2 COLLECTS \$60,000

Navratilova routs Sabatini for title

AMELIA ISLAND, Fla., April 18. (Reuters) Second seed Martina Navratilova won her fifth straight title yesterday when she crushed third seed Gabriela Sabatini 6-0 6-2 in the final of the \$300,000 Florida Clay Court Championships.

Navratilova, ranked second in the world, has compiled a 30-1 record this year with her only loss coming at the hands of long time rival Chris Evert in the semifinals of the Australian Open in January.

The crowd had high hopes for a dramatic final following Sabatini's brilliant come-from-behind victory over West German world number one Steffi Graf in the semifinals on Saturday. But the 17-year-old Argentine never had a chance on Sunday.



Navratilova races across the court to reach a volley. (Reuters wirephoto)

The second game. However, Sabatini squandered the opportunity to get into the match when she sailed a backhand passing attempt.

Navratilova then broke Sabatini in the third game for a 2-1 lead and after each held serve.



Sabatini returns a shot. (Reuters wirephoto)

"I didn't give her a chance to get set up on the points and get into the match. She probably had some mental fatigue from having such a big win," said Navratilova, who collected \$60,000.

Sabatini said she was simply blitzed by Navratilova.

"I think I was a little tight (from the three-set win over Graf). But Martina is playing great. She started putting pressure on me from the beginning, and I couldn't react," said Sabatini.

Lemon takes Tigers past Royals

Red Sox brush aside Rangers

BOSTON, April 18. (AP) Mike Greenwell drove in a career-high six runs with a homer, two singles and a grounder as the Boston Red Sox broke out of a slump with a 20-hit attack for a 15-2 rout of the Texas Rangers in an American League baseball game yesterday.

Rick Cerone, acquired as a free agent on Thursday, had four hits for the Red Sox, and Jim Rice and Marty Barrett had three apiece.

Staked to a 10-0 lead in the first two innings, Bruce Hurst breezed to victory with a four-hitter. He struck out eight and walked three in his first complete game of the season.

Tigers 8, Royals 6
Chet Lemon extended his hitting streak to all 10 Detroit games, driving in two runs and scoring twice, and Jeff Robinson pitched the Tigers to another victory over the Kansas City Royals.

Robinson, 1-1, allowed three runs on four hits over 6 2-3 innings. Three of the four hits off him were solo homers, two by George Brett and one by Jamie Quirk. Brett also drove in a run in the eighth with a single and had three RBIs.

Mark Gubicza, 2-1, gave up five runs on seven hits in four innings for Kansas City. Detroit scored three runs in the second and two in the fourth.

Blue Jays 2, Twins 0
Mike Flanagan and Tom Henke combined on a seven-hit shutout, and Kelly Gruber figured in both Toronto runs as the Blue Jays snapped a four-game losing streak with a 2-0 victory over the Minnesota

Twins.
Flanagan, 2-0, struck out two, walked two and did not allow a runner past second base, became out after allowing a leadoff single to Tim Lardner in the eighth, and Henke earned his second save, giving up two hits in two innings.

Twins right-hander Les Straker, 0-1, allowed seven hits in seven innings and has not won on the road since last July 9.

Brewers 6, Yankees 3
Joey Meyer homered for his first Major League hit. Robin Yount and Rob Deer also homered, and the Milwaukee Brewers beat the New York Yankees 6-3 behind the pitching of Ted Higuera.

Higuera, 2-0, allowed three runs on seven hits over 8 1-3 innings before he was relieved by Dan Plesac, who earned his first save.

Higuera held the Yankees to an unearned run in the third until Roberto Kelly got the Yankees' first extra-base hit, a one-out double in the ninth. Mike Pagliarulo followed with his third homer, and Plesac came on to get the final two outs.

White Sox 7, Athletics 6
Lance Johnson doubled home two runs, sending Chicago ahead during a five-run fourth inning, and the White Sox held on to beat the Oakland Athletics 7-6 to sweep their three-game series.

Rookie pitcher Jack McDowell, 1-1, got the victory despite giving up three runs in the first and a two-run homer by Dave Parker in the fifth. He allowed three hits and five runs over five innings.

The White Sox scored what

turned out to be the winning run in the ninth on a single by Donnie Hill and three walks by Eric Plunk. Jose Canseco drove in a run with a double off John Davis in the ninth to pull the A's within one run.

Astros 5, Reds 3
Nolan Ryan struck out nine and broke a tie with a two-run single as Houston beat Cincinnati 5-3.

Ryan, who has not pitched a complete game since April 25, 1986 versus Cincinnati, pitched eight innings allowing seven hits. Dave Smith got the final three outs for his second save.

With the score tied 2-2 in the second, Mark Bailey singled and Chuck Jackson doubled. Ryan then poked a single off shortstop Barry Larkin's glove into center to score both runners. Ryan later scored the third run of the inning on Danny Jackson's second base hit of the inning.

Ryan, 2-0, got off to a shaky start when Larkin hit the second pitch of the game for his first home run.

Mets 3, Cardinals 2
Kevin Elster's two-out single in the ninth inning scored Mookie Wilson from third base and New York beat St. Louis 3-2 for the Mets' sixth consecutive victory.

The Mets tied the score in the eighth on run-scoring singles by Darryl Strawberry and Kevin McReynolds and then went on to complete their first three-game sweep of St. Louis at Shea stadium since July 1984.

Roger McDowell, 1-0, pitched two scoreless innings for the victory and Peters lost his first

decision.
Expos 5, Phillies 2
Andres Galarraga drove in three runs with a homer and a single as Montreal defeated Philadelphia 5-2, sending the Phillies to their seventh straight defeat.

Results
National League
Pittsburgh 12 Chicago 7
Montreal 5 Philadelphia 2
New York 3 St. Louis 2
Houston 5 Cincinnati 3
Atlanta 3 Los Angeles 4
San Francisco 9 San Diego 1

American League
Boston 15 Texas 2
Milwaukee 6 New York 3
Cleveland 4 Baltimore 1
California 7 Seattle 4
Chicago 7 Oakland 6
Detroit 8 Kansas City 6
Toronto 3 Minnesota 0

Standings
American League
Eastern Division
Cleveland 2 31 2 845 1-1/2 GB
New York 9 3 750 3-1/2
Detroit 6 4 600 3-1/2
Toronto 5 7 583 3-1/2
Boston 5 4 417 5-1/2
Milwaukee 4 7 364 6
Baltimore 0 12 000 10-1/2

Western Division
California 15 3 545 —
Kansas City 6 5 545 —
Oakland 6 6 500 1-1/2
Texas 2 6 455 3
Seattle 5 7 417 1-1/2
Minnesota 4 6 400 1-1/2

National League
Eastern Division
New York 8 3 777 —
Pittsburgh 8 3 777 —
Chicago 6 5 545 —
Montreal 5 6 455 3
Philadelphia 3 8 273 5
St. Louis 3 8 273 5

Western Division
Houston 8 3 777 —
Los Angeles 8 4 667 1-1/2
Cincinnati 7 5 583 1-1/2
San Francisco 7 5 583 1-1/2
San Diego 4 8 333 4-1/2
Atlanta 1 10 091 7

Unser Jr triumphs in Indy-car race

LONG BEACH, California, April 18. (AP) Al Unser Jr. ended the Andretti family's hold on the Toyota Grand Prix of Long Beach, running away with yesterday's Indy-car race on the seaside road circuit.

Unser, who will turn 26 tomorrow, picked up his fifth Indy-car victory—all have come on road courses—and his first since the 1986 finale at Miami.

Two-time defending CART-PPG champion Bobby Rahal finished second yesterday, one lap and 33.482 seconds behind the winner's Chevrolet-powered March.

Stint
Kevin Cogan wound up third, followed another lap back by Raul Boesel of Brazil, Derek Daly of Ireland and Rocky Moran.

Unser, who came back this year to the team owned by Rick Galle after a three-year stint with Doug Shierson, gave Galle only his second Indy-car victory and his first since Unser won at Portland, Oregon in June 1984.

The winner, who had finished second here the last two years, averaged 83.655 mph in the 95-lap, 158.65-mile race on the tight 1.67 mile circuit. Unser won \$91,160.

Boesel, who replaced Unser of the Shierson team, now leads the season standings after two races with 22 points.



Unser Jr. got a superb goal

Penarol beat Porto on penalties

NEWARK, New Jersey, April 18. (AP) Uruguay's Penarol yesterday beat Porto of Portugal 4-3 on penalties after regulation time ended 0-0 in a rematch of their Intercontinental Cup clash last year in Tokyo.

The Portuguese team defeated Penarol 2-1 in Tokyo last December in a game played on a field covered by snow. Porto claimed the Cup, which is recognized as the World Club Championship.

Ricardo Viera, Mario da Silva, Carlos Herrera and Daniel Rivero scored the first four penalty kicks for Penarol, while Uruguayan goalkeeper Oscar Ferrero stopped a shot by Celso, the first Porto player to face him, and Sousa's kick hit the bar.

Attacks
The Portuguese players who scored were Raulnei, Semedo and Placido.

Most of Penarol's attacks came through long passes. In two occasions, left winger Jorge Cabrera received long passes alone in the penalty area, but both times he failed to stop the ball and missed good chances to score.

Dutch soccer
AMSTERDAM, April 18. (Reuters) PSV Eindhoven, already comfortable winners of the Dutch First Division, were held to a 1-1 draw away to Roda JC yesterday after deciding to leave three of their key players on the bench.

Wim Kieft, Soren Lerby and Frank Arnesen were rested ahead of Wednesday's European Cup semifinal second leg against Real Madrid. The teams drew the first leg 1-1.

Budd receives strong support as British athletics faces crisis

LONDON, April 18. (Reuters) Beleaguered Zola Budd received strong support yesterday from fellow athletes and officials as British athletics faced the worst crisis in its history.

One top official even accused the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) of "banana-republic politics."

All British athletes face a ban from international competition, including the Olympics, if their national governing body refuse to bow to the demand of their international counterparts to suspend Budd for 12 months.

Rules
Budd, a naturalised Briton, was found guilty on Saturday of breaking IAAF rules by taking part in a meeting in her native South Africa.

The IAAF have threatened to suspend the British Amateur Athletic Board (BAAB) if they do not slap at least a one-year ban on her.

But the IAAF's action was roundly condemned on Sunday. Budd's coach and an English official talked of "blackmail," and two Seoul-bound athletes said Budd should be backed even if it meant Britain missed the Olympics.

A special meeting of the BAAB will be held next Sunday and one of their members, Amateur Athletics Association general-secretary Mike Farrell said: "We are in no-win situation. We don't like being blackmailed and we will be discussing our legal position to see where we stand."

Budd was still making no comment from her Guildford home yesterday but coach John Bryant said: "She's despondent to say the least. People can't keep giving in all the time to this type of blackmail."

Briton Hugh Jones, after earn-

ing his marathon place in the Seoul Olympics following his fourth spot in the London marathon yesterday, said the BAAB would be "completely spineless and without principle," if they did not support Budd.

He added: "The IAAF haven't got the courage of their own convictions. In fact, I don't think they have any convictions. She's done absolutely nothing wrong and they are wreaking havoc on the head of Zola because of a small technicality."

"I feel so strongly about it that I think, even if it means us all missing the Olympics, Budd should be supported on this issue. There's a very strong principle involved."

Kevin Forster, who was second in the London marathon and is also Seoul-bound said: "There's insufficient evidence to back up any kind of ban. The board should defend her even if it means no team going to the Olympics."

One member of the BAAB, Northern Ireland Amateur Athletics Association secretary, Les Jones, a close adviser to Budd, said: "The IAAF have been indulging in banana republic politics. This makes you ashamed to be a member of the IAAF."

Longest
"They ban people for two years if they take drugs and yet they are thinking of suspending one of their longest serving federations for the most minor infringement. The whole business calls their credibility into question."

One thing does look certain. The crisis has already affected Budd's once insatiable appetite for running. Bryant said: "I got her to go for a run yesterday and that was an achievement in itself."

IAAF reverses decision on long jump rigging

LONDON, April 18. (Reuters) The International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) did a dramatic about-turn yesterday over the Rome World Championships long jump rigging scandal.

Last month the Italian Olympic Committee (Coni) ruled that the sixth and final jump, it had also decided to examine IAAF rules regarding protests, the statement said.

Evangelisti, who was not involved in the rigging, gave back his medal in December because it had lost all meaning for him. Evangelisti, 26, beat American Larry Myricks to the bronze by five centimetres according to the official result.

But controversy over the September long jump has rocked the Italian athletics world since television computer and video projections last November suggested Evangelisti jumped 58 centimetres short of the official measurement.

Yesterday, after its two-day council meeting chaired by president Primo Nebiolo, the

IAAF announced that Evangelisti's final jump would be ignored and the result adjusted accordingly.

The council had decided unanimously, and exceptionally, despite IAAF rules to ignore the sixth and final jump. It had also decided to examine IAAF rules regarding protests, the statement said.

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Martin to face Jahangir in Open final

LONDON, April 18. (Reuters) Australian fifth seed Rodney Martin, conqueror of Jansher Khan in the quarterfinals, yesterday set up a British Open Squash final showdown with Jahangir Khan.

Martin beat former world champion Ross Norman of New Zealand 9-4 9-0-1 after winning 17 points in a row at one stage.

Martin said: "This is unbelievable. I have actually made the British Open final. It has been my goal ever since I followed squash as a boy."

Record
Jahangir, the defending champion, beat Australia's Chris Dittmar 1-9 9-6 9-2 9-5.

The first women's semifinal between old rivals Susan Devoy of New Zealand and England's Lucy Soutter lasted 113 minutes, two minutes short of the record for a women's championship game.

Victory went to Devoy, world champion and title-holder, who fought back to win 2-9 7-9 9-5 10-8 9-5.

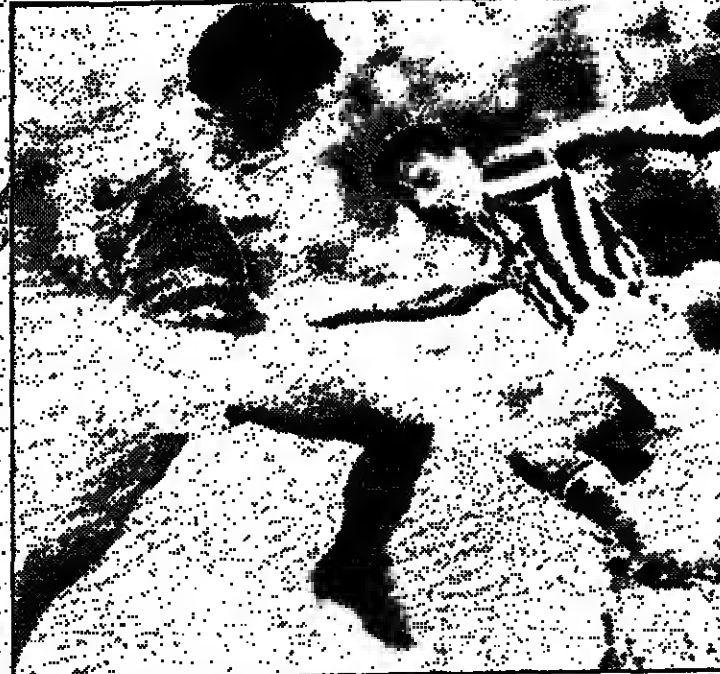
In the final she meets Liz Irving of Australia who beat England's Martine Le Moignan 6-9 2-4 9-9 7-9 7-9.

Blushing John
PARIS, April 18. (Reuters) Blushing John, the 6-4 favourite, proved himself a colt with classic prospects after a highly polished performance in the one mile Prix De Fontainebleau at Longchamp yesterday.

The Freddie Head-ridden son of Blushing Groom flew out the stalls and was never headed to win by two lengths from Triteram with the inexperienced Criquelette Head-trained Soviet Lad half a length back in third.

Connections of both Triteram, who had had the advantage of a race this season, and Soviet Lad, may take the winner on again in the Guineas.

Rush helps Juventus tame Napoli



Rush (right) of Juventus and Argentinian star Diego Maradona of Napoli scramble for the ball. (Reuters wirephoto)

ROME, April 18. (Reuters) Welsh international Ian Rush shrugged off his indifferent form and helped Juventus topple Diego Maradona's Italian League leaders Napoli 3-1 in Turin yesterday.

Defending champions Napoli stay top but had their lead cut to two points after second-placed AC Milan gained a hard-fought 2-0 victory at Roma, to step up their title challenge.

Burst
Rush, much criticised for his poor performance in his first season at Juventus, burst into the game with a powerful close-range goal in the 68th minute that showed he had lost none of his unforgiving finishing skills.

The Welsh striker also set up his club's third goal in the 75th minute, passing to Dane Michael Laudrup, who was tripped in the area. Luigi De Agostini converted the penalty.

Juventus, once the giants of Italian soccer with 22 League titles behind them but now desperately seeking a place in

European competition next season, took the lead with surprise ease in the 19th minute through World Cup veteran Antonio Cabrini.

Cabrini, the captain who was with Juventus in their all-conquering days, headed home from a corner, but was sent off towards the end of the match for arguing with the referee.

The Turin team, playing in front of a capacity crowd, stay seventh in the League, 14 points behind the leaders.

Napoli, with Argentine World Cup captain Maradona playing a fine game but failing to score from his favourite free-kick shots, got a consolation goal in the 83rd minute through Brazilian Careca after a piece of virtuoso footwork by Maradona.

Results
Ascoli 1 Sampdoria 1
Avellino 1 Pescara 1
Como 0 Cosenza 1
Empoli 0 Torino 0
Inter 3 Fiorentina 0
Juventus 3 Napoli 1
Roma 0 Milan 2

SPORTS

DUJON HITS CENTURY FOR W. INDIES

Pakistan lose three quick wickets

PÓRT-OF-SPAIN, April 18. (Reuters): Needing 372 to beat West Indies in the second Test and to take a 2-0 lead in the three match series, Pakistan were 107-3 at the close of the fourth day yesterday.

West Indies had earlier been bowled out shortly before lunch for 391 with Jeffrey Dujon completing his fifth Test century.

Pakistan, after a free-flowing start when Rameez Raja and Mudassar put on 60 in 17.3 overs, almost ground to a standstill after tea scoring 41 runs in the final session albeit in only 22 overs.

Edged

The West Indies managed to bowl a mere 49 overs in 4 hours and 10 minutes. Having been 60-0, Pakistan suffered a mini-collapse losing three wickets for seven runs. First Mudassar, aiming to drive Benjamin, edged a ball that left him off the wicket and was magnificently caught by Dujon low in front of the first slip.

Shoaib was in for 25 minutes and failed to get off the mark before Benjamin bowled him with a beauty that cut back sharply.

In the first over after tea, Malcolm Marshall celebrated his 30th birthday by having Rameez,



Dujon: fifth Test ton

on 44, caught at first slip by Viv Richards.

Thereafter, Javed two not out at tea and Salim Malik, dug in with both batsmen scoring only 17 runs each in the final session.

The West Indian bowlers were

unlucky not to make further inroads with Walsh in particular consistently beating the bat. His excellent 15 overs cost him a mere 24 runs.

The West Indian second innings, standing at 329-8 over-

night, was skillfully prolonged by Dujon who farmed much of the strike against a tired and depleted attack. Sixty two runs were added in 97 minutes with Dujon scoring 36 of them having been 70 overnight.

When Benjamin was ninth out for 16 at 357, having put on 56 with Dujon, the West Indian keeper was still 14 short of a first Test hundred since November 1984 at Perth. Walsh defended admirably.

Allowing Dujon to go from 92 to 100 in singles, but after having had an unaccustomed long stay of nearly an hour at the crease, Walsh could not resist having a slog against Abdul Qadir and was stumped when he charged down the wicket. This gave Qadir, who had trapped Benjamin lbw, his fourth wicket in a marathon bowl of 47.4 overs costing 148 runs.

Dujon's highly accomplished 106 not out was scored off 175 balls and contained 13 fours.

Curiously his previous highest score in five Tests against Pakistan was his first innings score of 24. This was no doubt the reason for the Pakistani Manager, Intikhab Alam's bold assertion after the first Test that the West Indian tail began with Dujon.

Scoreboard

WEST INDIES first innings 174 (V. Richards 49, Loran Khan four for 38, Abdul Qadir four for 83).

PAKISTAN first innings 194 (S. Malik 66 M. Marshall four for 55).

WEST INDIES second innings (overnight 329 for eight)

Greenidge c sub (Anjum) b Loran 29

D. Haynes c Ejaz Ahmad b Loran 0

R. Richardson c Yousuf b Loran 40

A. Logie b Loran 1

V. Richards lbw Akram 123

C. Hooper c Ejaz b Loran 26

J. Dujon not out 106

M. Marshall b Qadir 2

C. Ambrose lbw Qadir 9

W. Benjamin lbw Qadir 16

C. Walsh c Yousuf b Qadir 12

Extras (b-9 lb-14 nb-4) 77

Total 391

Fall of wickets: 1-1 2-54 3-66 4-81

5-175 6-272 7-284 8-301 9-357

Bowling: Loran 45-9-115-5 (1 nb), Akram 25-4-75-1 (1 nb), Qadir 47-4-6-148-4 (2 nb), Faizal 4-0-22-0.

PAKISTAN second innings

Rameez c Richards b Marshall 44

Mudassar c Dujon b Benjamin 13

Shoaib c Mohammad b Benjamin 0

Javed Miandad not out 19

Salim Malik not out 17

Extras (b-1 lb-6 nb-7) 14

Total (three wickets) 107

Fall of wickets: 1-60 2-62 3-67

Bowling to date: Marshall 11-1-34-1, Ambrose 8-3-15-0, Walsh 15-5-24-0, Benjamin 14-6-27-2.



Norman scores first US win in two years

HILTON HEAD, S.C., April 18. (Reuters): Australia's Greg Norman yesterday came from four strokes back to score his first US Tour victory in two years at the \$700,000 Heritage Classic.

Norman played a bogey-free, five-under-par 66 round for a 13-under-par 271 total worth \$126,000.

He last won in the United States in May 1986 at the Las Vegas Invitational, but has had great success in Australian tournaments during his US drought.

Missed

South African David Frost and Gil Morgan finished one stroke behind Norman at 12-under 272. Frost had a chance to send the tournament into a playoff on the final hole, but his 25-foot birdie attempt missed to the left.

Third round leader Fred Couples struggled with a two over par 73 and finished in fourth place at 274.

McNulty captures Open title

CANNES, France, April 18. (Reuters): Ziamhabwe-born Mark McNulty, out of action for four months, until recently because of double pneumonia, bounced back to shoot a final round 66 and win the Cannes Open golf championship by three strokes yesterday.

He collected seven birdies after dropping a stroke at the opening hole, to finish on a nine-under-par 279 for the tournament and overhaul third round leader Ron Commans, who managed only a 72.

Commans finished joint second on 282 with fellow American Joey Sindelar, who fired a two-under-par 70.

The victory was worth \$31,600 (\$59,700) to McNulty.

The 34-year-old Johannesburg-based professional, winner of 12 tournaments between September 1986 and August 1987 around the world, missed all but three events on southern Africa's Sunshine circuit after being struck down by the virus.

But he has had a sensational return, finished second, third and sixth in the southern African events, in one of which he had a round of 61. He then ended 16th on his debut in the US Masters last week.

"Obviously this victory means a lot to me but I'm really happy for Jamie," said Norman referring to 17-year-old Jamie Hutton, who is suffering from leukaemia.

Hutton had expressed a desire to meet Norman and the Australian golf star arranged for Hutton and his family to come to Hilton Head.

"His being with me pumped me and I knew I was playing well," said Norman, who gave Hutton his Heritage trophy.

Norman began his run at the leaders with a birdie on the par-five fifth hole and closed out the front nine with birdies on eight and nine.

A birdie on the 10th hole gave Norman a share of the lead with Frost and another birdie on 15 put the Australian ahead for good.

"Sunday's final round is pay day and you need to hang in there and put beat on the other guys," Norman said.



McNulty: triumphs

McNulty, who had a hole-in-one in the third round, sank putts of 20 feet and 40 feet for two of his final round birdies.

"The pneumonia was miserable but it turned out to be a blessing in disguise. After being in contention almost every week I badly needed a break and it forced me to rest," McNulty said.

"I never expected to bounce back so quickly. Now, obviously, I can go one better than last year's second place to Ian Woosnam in the European Order of Merit. But my priority is just to try to win more tournaments and let everything else take care of itself."

Californian Commans birdied the final hole after a shaky spell and drew level with Sindelar, who is lying sixth in the US money list.

Lopez passes \$2 million in golf earnings

LOS ANGELES, April 18. (Reuters): Nancy Lopez yesterday won her 38th LPGA tournament with a par on the second hole of a playoff and became the fourth player in tour history with career earnings of more than \$2 million.

Lopez shot a five-under-par 67 to finish the 54-hole event tied with Spain's Marta Figueras-Dotti at six-under 210.

On the second hole of their playoff, Figueras-Dotti three-putted from 40 feet for a bogey that sealed Lopez's victory.

"I am a little disappointed," the Spaniard said. "When you want it so bad and it does not happen, it is really tough," added Figueras-Dotti, who shot three rounds of two-under 70.

Colleen Walker, who shot a five-under-par 67, finished in third place just one stroke behind the leaders.

The second victory of the year for Lopez was worth \$60,000 which brought her total career earnings to \$2,044,946.

Pat Bradley, Joanne Carner and Amy Alcott are the only other players who have earned more than \$2 million on the US Women's Golf Tour.

Lopez put herself in the hunt for the winner's cheque with an eagle on the second hole. She caught Figueras-Dotti with birdies on the fifth, 11th and 12th holes.

"I really hit the ball well today. I got my irons together," said Lopez.

Dunhill Cup

MONTEGO BAY, Jamaica, April 18. (Reuters): Canada easily beat Brazil 3-0 to win the Dunhill Cup Americas qualifying tournament yesterday.

But it was Argentina, playing against Colombia for the last place, who captured the spotlight with brilliant golf in their 3-0 win.

The results mean Canada, Brazil and Argentina go through to compete in the \$1 million Dunhill Cup final at St Andrews, Scotland, from October 13-16.

But he has had a sensational return, finished second, third and sixth in the southern African events, in one of which he had a round of 61. He then ended 16th on his debut in the US Masters last week.

Celtics and Lakers lose again

NEW YORK, April 18. (AP): The Los Angeles Lakers and Boston Celtics have been the only two NBA teams to hit the road with any success this season.

Lately, the road has been hitting back.

The Lakers, who've had their troubles away from the forum for the last month, dropped their fifth straight road game by losing to Houston 127-119.

The Celtics, who along with the Lakers are the only two NBA teams over .500 away from home this season, lost their second road game in three days, falling to Washington 98-92.

In other NBA games yesterday, it was Chicago 105, Milwaukee 97; Denver 133, Dallas 122; and Portland 122, Sacramento 112.

Rockets 127, Lakers 119

Los Angeles may have caught the Rockets at a bad time. Two nights earlier, Houston blew a 20-point lead in a 132-125 loss to Denver.

"We showed everyone how well we could play in the first half

against Denver and how bad in the second half," Rockets forward Rodney McCray said.

"Today we wanted to show the fans how good we could play for an entire game."

The victory broke Houston's eight-game losing streak to the Lakers. The two clubs could meet in the second round of the playoffs.

"We had a challenge with this team," said centre Akeem Olajuwon, who led Houston with 38 points before fouling out. "We were mentally prepared, and you have to be prepared for every game."

Magic Johnson had 19 points, 10 rebounds and 12 assists for his 12th triple-double this season and the 95th of his career.

"It seems like other teams are a little more in synch than we are right now," Johnson said. "We're just trying to get it going."

The Lakers have not won on the road since beating Golden State on March 20.

Bullets 98, Celtics 92

The Celtics, who were humbled in Cleveland Friday night, over-

came an 11-point deficit in the final period, only to be outscored 7-0 in the final 1:55.

Jim Paxson's jumper gave Boston a 92-91 lead. But Jeff Malone put the Celtics back in front and Darrell Walker then stole the ball from Robert Parish and drove for a layup and a 95-92 lead.

Walker, who has played little since a December ankle injury, has made key plans in two victories in the past week.

"Darrell's given us a lift," Washington coach Wes Unseld said. "He was playing that well before he got hurt, but it was almost two months before he was ready to come back."

The victory, Washington's first in six meetings with the Celtics this season, moved the Bullets into a tie with New York for the final two Eastern Division playoff spots.

Moses Malone had 24 points for Washington and Jeff Malone 23. Larry Bird topped five Boston starters in double figures with 23 points as the Celtics' bench produced only 11 points.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Title fight

TOKYO, April 18. (Reuters): World Boxing Council (WBC) super-flyweight champion Gilberto Roman of Mexico will defend his title against Japan's Yoshiyuki Uchida at Kawagoe, near Tokyo, on July 9. Japanese promoters said today. Roman regained the title from Jesus "Sugar Baby" Rojas of Colombia on points at Miami Beach on April 8.

S. Korean Open

SEOUL, April 18. (Reuters): Defending Champion Jim Grabb of the United States did not survive the first round of the South Korean Open tennis championships today, going down 6-3, 7-5 to unseeded Briton Andrew Castle.

Sixth-seeded Grabb, who beat compatriot Andre Agassi in the 1987 final, never settled against his less-experienced opponent.

Soviet player

SOFIA, April 18. (Reuters): Vladimir Zhigil of the Soviet Union has become the first foreigner to play for a Bulgarian basketball team, following a decision to allow clubs to employ foreigners. Zhigil, a former national team player who was previously with Dynamo Moscow, made his debut with Sofia's Levski Spartak on Saturday.

Plastic surgery

LONDON, April 18. (AP): Eddie "The Eagle" Edwards, the improbable hero of the Winter Olympics, is considering plastic surgery to improve his looks. Edwards, the bespectacled Briton who was cheered as he finished last in both the 70- and 90-metre ski jumps at Calgary, told London newspapers he had been offered the operation free of charge by an American specialist, Dr Robert van Boven.

Swedish skier

STOCKHOLM, Sweden, April 18. (AP): Ingemar Stenmark, the most successful slalom and giant slalom skier in history, today that he will race on a limited basis at least one more season. "I have decided to compete only in slalom next season," the 32-year-old veteran said in an interview from his native Tarnaby in north Sweden.

Drug tests

FRANKFURT, West Germany, April 18. (Reuters): From next season, West German soccer players will for the first time have to undergo drug tests in domestic competition.

Rio tennis

RIO DE JANEIRO, April 18. (Reuters): Argentina's Javier Frana won the most important tournament of his career to date, beating Brazilian Cassio Motta 7-5 4-6 6-3 in the final of the \$75,000 Rio de Janeiro Men's Tennis Open yesterday.

IOC members

LILLEHAMMER, Norway, April 18. (UPI): Four International Olympic Committee (IOC) members are scheduled to visit Lillehammer this month bringing the overall tally to 40 IOC visitors at the Norwegian candidate for the 1994 Winter Olympics.

Olympic hopeful

LONDON, April 18. (UPI): Olympic hopeful Michael Whitaker has withdrawn from the British show jumping team for this month's Rome Nations Cup and the Lucerne Nations Cup in May.

Top speedskater

OSLO, April 18. (UPI): Norwegian speedskater Geir Karlstad, who set world records for 5,000 and 10,000 metres at Calgary last December but failed completely at the Olympic games, will continue for the 1992 Olympics if he gets the right financial backup.

English cricket

LONDON, April 18. (Reuters): Close of play scores in English cricket matches yesterday.

At Cambridge: Cambridge University 86 (M. Atherton 44, A. Warner four for 22, D. Malcolm three for 21). Derbyshire 275 for three (K. Barnett 151, P. Bowler 92 not out).

At Lord's: Nottinghamshire 298 for three declared (T. Robinson 129, P. Johnson 61 not out). MCC 159 for seven (G. Hick 61).

Bridge

RESULTS OF THE SAS Bridge Club games played on Sunday:

N/S

1. Lyn Edwards & Pearl Leary

2. Ailly Lammerts & Nicole Iskander

3. Sandra Turvey & Gill White

E/W

1. Nida Khalaf & Johnette Chiles

2. Camille Sawabina & Khouda Tanas

3. Daphne El-Saad & Margaret Maynard



Mujahed: six wickets

Young Stars beat Dash XI

NEW YOUNG STARS beat Dash XI by seven wickets at the Church ground on Friday.

Dash XI, after winning the toss, elected to bat but were all out for 53 runs in only 16 overs. Mujahed was the main wicket-taker with six for 12 in only five overs.

Mujahed also batted well, scoring an unbeaten 28, as New Young Stars went past the victory target for the loss of only three wickets.

Formula 3000

JEREZ DE LA FRONTERA, Spain, April 18. (AP): Johnny Herbert of Britain drove his Reynard-88D Cosworth car to victory yesterday in a formula 3,000 race, first event counting for the European Championship.

Herbert won the race, which consisted of 49 laps around the 4.186-kilometre Jerez circuit for a total of 205 kilometres in one hour, 17 minutes and 20 seconds.

as a seafaring nation has not been lost.

The class prizes were won by: Rashid Katal and Abdulatif Al Boloushi — 470

Mohammed Al Hamdan and Nasser Al Hamdan — Kestrel

Salem Al Fahed — Laser

The overall prize, the Colenutt Plate was awarded to Rashid Katal & Abdulatif Al Boloushi who had showed a consistently high performance over both the days.

The dinghy competition attracted 29 entrants representing Kuwait Sea Sports Club, the Sea Scouts from Fintas and Al Kubar Yacht Committee.

Task

The varying wind and sea conditions made the task of planning the Olympic style courses to be sailed difficult for the race officials Adam Reay and Peter Morgan and tested the full range of skills of both helmsman and crews, and as the results eventually showed, Kuwait's history

Unity clinch Al Mulla Cup

UNITY Hockey Club thrashed Al Hilal 3-0 to capture the Al Mulla Mitsubishi Hockey Cup at the Ahmad hockey grounds on Friday.

Unity went ahead in the 2nd minute of the first half with a goal through Liaquat off a short-corner. Unity kept the pressure up on their opponents and got two more goals in the 7th and 16th minute through Nasir Diwanji.

Thwarted

Al Hilal tried to get into the game in the second half but all the attempts to score were thwarted by the Unity defence.

The general manager of the Al Mulla Group of companies, Ivan Pacheco, gave away the prizes. Nasir Diwanji was named Man of the Match.

Unity skipper Muntaz received the championship trophy.



Muntaz (right) receives the trophy.

England warn Botham

LONDON, April 18. (Reuters): Ian Botham's off-field exploits in Australia will not count against his chances of England selection this season. But his cricketing form will.

In the bluntest warning yet that England may look elsewhere for a matchwinner, chairman of selectors Peter May indicated today the Worcestershire all-rounder could not be certain of his place to face the West Indies who begin touring next month.

May said: "On his day, Ian is still a high class cricketer. But his first class statistics last seasons — 21 wickets at 42 runs apiece and a batting average of 29 — is not the

sort of form we're looking for."

But May confirmed Botham's behaviour in Australia, which culminated in his dismissal from Queensland along with a heavy fine following a row on a plane with Australian skipper Allan Border, would not be a factor in his selection.

"As far as the selectors are concerned states have to be wiped clean at the start of a new season," May said.

Border arrived today to join English county side Essex and stated that he and Botham, who has taken a joint world record 373 wickets in 94 Tests, were still good friends.

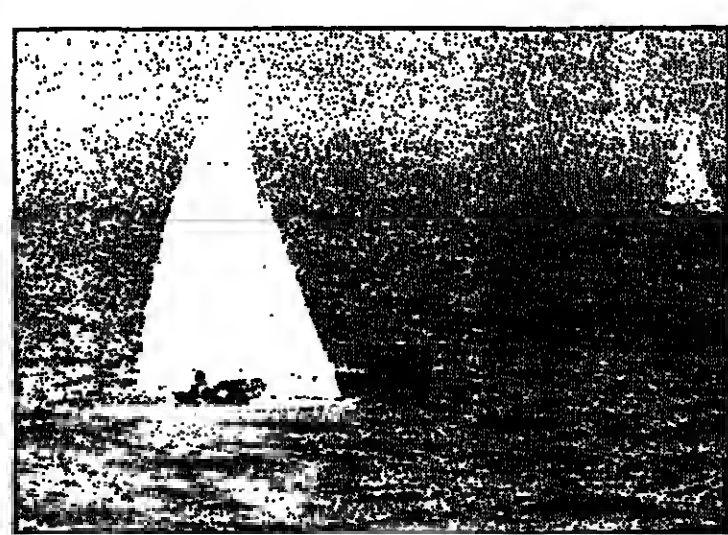
Francisco shines in snooker event

SHEFFIELD, England, April 18. (Reuters): South African Silvino Francisco produced the best break-building display of his career in the first round of the World Snooker Championship yesterday.

Francisco, a professional for 10 years, knocked in breaks of 109, 105 and a clearance of 91 against Australian Eddie Charlton in their first-round contest.

But the South African held only a one-frame lead at 3-4 after the first session. Charlton making a strong response that included a break of 71 in the ninth frame.

Kuwaiti sailors clinch Colenutt Plate



The winner of the final race.

KUWAITI sailors Rashid Katal and Abdulatif Al Boloushi won the Colenutt Plate Open Dinghy racing competition, organised by the Al Kubar yacht Committee, at Fahaheel on Friday. The event included a windsurfing competition organised by the Kuwait Offshore Sailing Association.

The dinghy competition attracted 29 entrants representing Kuwait Sea Sports Club, the Sea Scouts from Fintas and Al Kubar Yacht Committee.

Task

The varying wind and sea conditions made the task of planning the Olympic style courses to be sailed difficult for the race officials Adam Reay and Peter Morgan and tested the full range of skills of both helmsman and crews, and as the results eventually showed, Kuwait's history